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DD 081930Z CAOFF
FM FCOLN TO NYMIS
081832Z NOV
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TO DESKBY 081900Z UKMIS NEW YORK
TELNO 795
OF 081832Z NOVEMBER 89

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KOHL ON THE GDR AND THE GERMAN QUESTION

SUMMARY

1. KOHL DEFINES THE FEDERAL GERMAN DEUTSCHLANDPOLITIK TO THE BUNDESTAG. EMPHASIS ON NEED FOR REFORM IN THE GDR.

DETAIL

GDR

2. IN HIS ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BUNDESTAG ON 8 NOVEMBER ON THE STATE OF THE NATION IN DIVIDED GERMANY KOHL SAID THAT ONLY THE GDR LEADERSHIP COULD IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN THE GDR AND PERSUADE THE PEOPLE TO REMAIN THERE. COSMETIC CHANGE WAS NOT ENOUGH; CLEAR AND PROFOUND REFORMS WERE REQUIRED. THE FRG WAS READY TO PROVIDE SUPPORT.

3. THE SED WOULD HAVE TO:

- GIVE UP ITS MONOPOLY ON POWER:
- ALLOW INDEPENDENT POLITICAL PARTIES:
- ASSURE FREE ELECTIONS.

THE CHANCELLOR WOULD THEN BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS A 'NEW DIMENSION' OF ECONOMIC HELP. BUT THIS HELP WOULD BE FUTILE UNLESS THE CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMY WAS REPLACED BY A MARKET ECONOMY. IT WAS THE 'NATIONAL TASK' TO SUPPORT FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHANGE. LASTING SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING THE GDR, WAS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL WESTERN COUNTRIES. HE CALLED ON ALL EC AND NATO COUNTRIES TO PROMOTE THIS PROCESS BY A 'READINESS TO COOPERATE.'

THE GERMAN QUESTION

4. KOHL SAID THIS WAS A QUESTION OF 'FREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR ALL GERMANS'. BUT FAILURE IN THE REFORM PROCESS IN POLAND AND HUNGARY WOULD AFFECT CHANCES FOR CHANGE IN THE GDR.

5. KOHL EMPHASISED THAT THE FRG WAS FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND THE COMMUNITY OF FREE NATIONS OF THE WEST. THIS WAS IRREVOCABLE. REUNIFICATION AND INTEGRATION IN THE WEST, DEUTSCHLANDPOLITIK AND EUROPEAN POLICY WERE 'TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN'. WITHOUT THE DYNAMICS OF WESTERN INTEGRATION THE REFORMS IN EASTERN EUROPE WOULD NOT BE HAPPENING. IF THE FRG HAD NOT BEEN FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE WESTERN COMMUNITY IT WOULD NOT HAVE EARNED THE TRUST OF ITS WESTERN PARTNERS WHO SUPPORTED IT IN ITS EFFORTS ON DEUTSCHLANDPOLITIK. HE THANKED MITTERRAND AND BUSH WHO HAD CLEARLY VOICED THEIR SUPPORT IN THE LAST FEW DAYS.

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