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GENSCHER'S VISIT TO LONDON ON 29 NOVEMBER

SUMMARY

1. A CHANCE TO QUESTION GENSCHER ABOUT KOHL'S NEW TEN POINT PLAN ON THE GERMAN QUESTION (MY TELNOS 1154 AND 1156). HIS APPROACH TO EASTERN EUROPE CLOSE TO OURS. DIVERGENCE OVER GOALS AT STRASBOURG. BUT HE REMAINS FIRM ON THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC'S ALLEGIANCE TO THE WEST, INCLUDING THE ALLIANCE.

DETAIL

2. IN SPEAKING TO THE BUNDESTAG ON 28 NOVEMBER KOHL FOR THE FIRST TIME DECLARED UNITY TO BE THE GOAL OF A PROCESS STARTING NOW. GENSCHER, SPEAKING LATER THE SAME DAY, SUPPORTED THIS BUT AS USUAL WAS RESTRAINED, MAKING NO MENTION OF REUNIFICATION AS SUCH. MAIN POINTS AS FOLLOWS:

- (A) THE FDP SUPPORTED THE TEN POINTS FORMULATED BY CHANCELLOR KOHL, AND BELIEVED THAT THEY SHOULD FORM THE BASIS OF A CONSENSUS IN THE BUNDESTAG ON THE SUBJECT OF RELATIONS WITH THE GDR. IT WAS MOST IMPORTANT THAT POLICY IN THIS AREA SHOULD NOT BECOME THE SUBJECT OF PARTY INFIGHTING IN THE COMING ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.
- (B) HE STRESSED IN PARTICULAR THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FRG BEING READY TO HELP THE GDR EVEN AT THIS STAGE IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY (THE FDP, UNLIKE THE CDU/CSU, HAS MADE PLAIN RECENTLY ITS PREFERENCE FOR MAKING AID TO THE GDR UNCONDITIONAL). THERE WERE IMPORTANT MEDICAL AND OTHER NEEDS TO BE SATISFIED BY MEANS OF URGENT ACTION. IF DURING THE WINTER THE GDR WERE TO LACK ADEQUATE MEANS OF TRANSPORT, THEN THE FRG SHOULD CONSIDER MAKING BUSES AVAILABLE. MUCH COULD BE DONE IN THIS SORT OF WAY.
- (C) THE SHAPE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE GDR WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED BY DEVELOPING THE GDR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THE GDR LEADERSHIP HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES IN WRITING TO THE COMMUNITY TO FREE, DEMOCRATIC AND SECRET ELECTIONS. THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT WHICH OPENED

THE WAY FOR RELATIONS WITH THE GDR ON A TRADE AGREEMENT, AND ON A COOPERATION AGREEMENT, WHICH IF IT WAS TO MEET THE GDR'S EXPECTATIONS SHOULD COVER NOT ONLY ECONOMIC COOPERATION, BUT TRADE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT, FISHERIES, STANDARDS, STATISTICS, CULTURE AND INFORMATION. CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE COMMUNITY WOULD CORRESPOND ALSO TO THE BASIC APPROACH OF ENTWINING THE GERMAN QUESTION WITH THE FATE OF EUROPE AS A WHOLE.

(D) THE PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE REFORM MOVEMENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE WAS DUE BOTH TO THE CORRECT AND CONSISTENT LINE WHICH THE WEST HAD FOLLOWED AND TO THE LINE TAKEN BY GORBACHEV. IT WAS OF KEY IMPORTANCE THAT GORGACHEV'S POLICIES IN THE SOVIET UNION SHOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. THE WEST FOR ITS PART NOW NEEDED TO APPLY ITSELF AS MUCH TO MAKING THE REFORM MOVEMENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE A SUCCESS AS IT HAD DONE IN THE PAST TO THE TASK SAFEGUARDING PEACE AND FREEDOM IN THE WEST. FOR THE WEST TO DO THIS WOULD BE AN INVESTMENT IN ITS OWN FUTURE.

3. OVER POLICY TOWARDS EASTERN EUROPE AS A WHOLE THERE IS MUCH TO WELCOME IN GENSCHER'S ATTITUDE. HE PLACES STRONG EMPHASIS IN PARTICULAR ON THE NEED FOR THE WEST NOT TO MAKE THINGS HARDER FOR GORBACHEV OR TO EXPLOIT CHANGE IN EASTERN EUROPE UNILATERALLY. HE HIMSELF WILL BE SEEING GORBACHEV DURING HIS VISIT TO MOSCOW FROM 5-6 DECEMBER. HE VISITED POLAND WITH KOHL EARLIER THIS MONTH, AND HAS JUST RETURNED FROM HUNGARY (HIS THIRD VISIT THERE THIS YEAR: BUDAPEST TELNO 553).

4. WHERE GENSCHER AT PRESENT DIFFERS NOTABLY FROM HMG IS IN HIS REFRAIN (MY TELNO 1076) THAT THE BEST WAY TO SAFEGUARD THE GAINS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE IS FOR THE TWELVE TO MOVE RAPIDLY TOWARDS EUROPEAN UNION. HIS LINE ON THE MAIN TOPICS FOR THE COMING EUROPEAN COUNCIL IS UNHELPFUL TO OUR POLICIES. HE WILL FOLLOW THE FRENCH ON THE SOCIAL CHARTER. ON EMU HE HAS BEEN URGING KOHL TO AGREE AT STRASBOURG TO CALL ON IGC IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1990. HIS ATTITUDE TO KOHL'S LATEST PRONOUNCEMENT ON EMU (SEPERATE TELEGRAM) IS AS YET UNKNOWN.

5. SPEAKING ON FRENCH RADIO ON 26 NOVEMBER, GENSCHER WAS ASKED (IN A DISCUSSION OF EMU) WHETHER IT WOULD IF NECESSARY BE POSSIBLE TO TAKE MATTERS FORWARD WITHOUT THE BRITISH. HIS REPLY WAS THAT QUOTE THE HISTROY OF THE EC SHOWS THAT IF THOSE WHO WANT TO PUSH THE COMMUNITY FORWARD FOLLOW A RESOLUTE COURSE THEN THE OTHER MEMBER STATES WILL JUMP ON TO THE MOVING TRAIN UNQUOTE.

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6. GENSCHER'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN RECENT MONTHS HAVE CONSISTENTLY STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO REMAIN FIRMLY EMBEDDED IN THE WEST. THIS WAS AGAIN A MAJOR THEME OF THE CLUTCH OF INTERVIEWS HE GAVE DURING LAST WEEKEND. IN THE INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH RADIO REFERRED TO ABOVE, ONE OF HIS COMMENTS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS WAS THAT 'THE FUNCTION OF THE ALLIANCES REMAINS UNCHANGED. I ALSO THINK THAT THEIR POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE WILL INCREASE (...)'.

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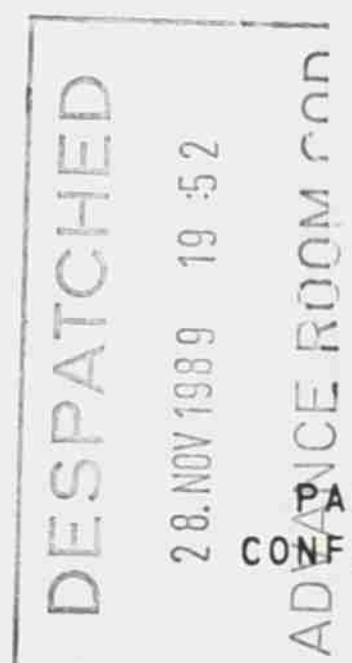
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