

UNCLASSIFIED

FM EAST BERLIN

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 421

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INFO SAVING CICC(G), OTHER EAST EUROPEAN POSTS, PEKING

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GDR REACTION TO KOHL'S TEN POINTS

SUMMARY

1. OFFICIAL REJECTION OF THE POLITICAL PREMISE, AS SEEN FROM HERE, OF KOHL'S 10 POINT STATEMENT. SHADES OF OPINION FROM OTHER OFFICIAL PARTIES AND OPPOSITION GROUPS.

DETAIL

2. THE GDR'S OFFICIAL REACTION TO CHANCELLOR KOHL'S BUNDESTAG STATEMENT ON 28 NOVEMBER WAS GIVEN IN THE GDR OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN'S REPLY READ OUT ON TELEVISION LAST NIGHT AND REPRINTED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND THIS MORNING. KRENZ ALSO COMMENTED ON TELEVISION.

3. ND REPORTED THAT KRENZ HAD REJECTED PRECONDITIONS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE FRG. 'WHEN ONE SETS OUT THE WORD CONFEDERATION ... IN A WAY WHICH MEANS THAT YOU ARE PROCEEDING ON THE BASIS OF THE EXISTENCE OF TWO INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN GERMAN STATES, THEN ONE CAN TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING'. BUT THE UNITY OF GERMANY WAS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

4. THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SUCH STATEMENTS (KOHL'S) NOT ONLY BYPASS REALITY, BUT COULD VERY EASILY LEAD TO IRRITATION SINCE THEY IGNORED NOT ONLY THE BASIC TREATY BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES, BUT ALSO THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT WHICH LAYS DOWN THE SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE TWO GERMAN STATES.

5. MEYER REACTED POSITIVELY, HOWEVER, TO KOHL'S SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION WITH THE GDR. THIS CONCERNED CONSIDERATIONS TO DO WITH 'THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP A JOINT COMMISSION' WHICH COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE TREATY RELATIONSHIP ALREADY SUGGESTED BY PRIME MINISTER MODROW. MEYER NOTED THAT KOHL HAD NOT MENTIONED PEACE AND DISARMAMENT AS THEMES FOR DISCUSSION. THE GDR ATTACHED IMPORTANCE TO THEM. IT HAD ALSO BEEN

OF INTEREST IN THE GDR THAT WHEN KOHL SPOKE ABOUT A ''CONFEDERATIVE STRUCTURE'' HE HAD OMITTED TO MENTION THAT SUCH A CONFEDERATION COULD ONLY BE CONCERNED WITH TWO SOVEREIGN STATES.

6. PROMINENCE HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN IN THE GDR PRESS AND TELEVISION TO AN APPEAL ''FOR OUR COUNTRY'' LAUNCHED LAST NIGHT BY A RANGE OF WRITERS, CHURCHMEN, REPRESENTATIVES OF SOME OF THE OPPOSITION GROUPS AND OTHERS. THE APPEAL WAS READ OUT BY STEFAN HEYM AND OFFERED CITIZENS OF THE GDR A CHOICE EITHER OF STANDING ON THEIR OWN FEET AND DEVELOPING A COOPERATIVE SOCIETY IN WHICH PEACE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND FREEDOM TO TRAVEL FOR ALL WERE GUARANTEED, OR OF ACCEPTING THAT THE GDR WOULD BE BOUGHT OUT BY THE STRENGTH OF ECONOMIC AND OTHER INFLUENCES FROM THE FRG. PEOPLE ARE BEING URGED TO EXPRESS THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE FIRST OPTION.

7. VIEWS FROM OTHERS IN THE OPPOSITION GROUPS HAVE ALSO BEEN REPORTED. BOEHME (SDP) SAID THAT HE WAS NOT IN FAVOUR OF A TOO RAPID PROPOSAL FOR CONFEDERATION. UNITY SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK. THE CDU (EAST) CHAIRMAN, DE MAIZIERE, SPOKE OF AN INTERESTING CONCEPT WHICH UNITED IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF HIS OWN APPROACH ''CONFEDERATIVE STRUCTURES BETWEEN THE TWO GERMAN STATES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN '' THE ALL EUROPEAN PROCESS''.'' MS BOHLEY, NEW FORUM, THOUGHT THAT THINGS WERE ALREADY MOVING IN THE DIRECTION OF CONFEDERATION. THE GDR NEEDED ABOVE ALL RAPID HELP FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC THROUGH INVESTMENT. FOR THE DEMOCRATIC AWAKENING, EPELMANN SPOKE OF A ''PREMATURE PROPOSAL''. THE POPULATION OF THE GDR SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE FOR THEMSELVES. THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATS SAW THE POSSIBILITY OF A CONFEDERATION BUT WITHIN A EUROPEAN HOUSE.

8. COMMENT IN MIFT.

BROOMFIELD

FCO PASS SAVING

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