

UNCLASSIFIED

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MDHIAN 6832

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FM WASHINGTON
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 3105
OF 300402Z NOVEMBER 89
INFO IMMEDIATE BONN, BMG BERLIN, EAST BERLIN, MOSCOW, PARIS
INFO IMMEDIATE UKDEL NATO
INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, WARSAW, BUDAPEST, VIENNA, PRAGUE

MIPT (NOT TO ALL): BAKER'S PRESS CONFERENCE: GERMAN
REUNIFICATION

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, BAKER MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:
QUOTE ON THE QUESTION OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION, LET ME SIMPLY SAY
THAT I THINK THAT OUR POSITION ON THAT SHOULD ESSENTIALLY
EMBRACE FOUR PRINCIPLES. FIRST OF ALL, THAT SELF DETERMINATION
MUST BE PURSUED WITHOUT PREJUDICE AS TO ITS OUTCOME. THAT IS,
WE REALLY SHOULDN'T ENDORSE OR EXCLUDE ANY PARTICULAR VISION OF
UNITY. UNITY CAN MEAN A LOT OF THINGS: IT CAN MEAN A SINGLE
FEDERAL STATE, IT CAN MEAN A CONFEDERATION, OR IT COULD MEAN
SOMETHING ELSE.

SECOND PRINCIPLE: I THINK IF THERE'S UNIFICATION, IT SHOULD
OCCUR IN THE CONTEXT OF GERMANY'S CONTINUED ALIGNMENT WITH NATO
AND AN INCREASINGLY INTEGRATED EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. THAT IS,
THERE SHOULD BE NO TRADE OF NEUTRALISM FOR UNITY, AND THERE
SHOULD BE NO DILUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY'S
LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER.

THIRD PRINCIPLE: IN THE INTEREST OF GENERAL EUROPEAN STABILITY,
I THINK I WOULD PREFER TO SEE MOVES TOWARD UNIFICATION BE
PEACEFUL, GRADUAL, AND PART OF A STEP BY STEP PROCESS.

AND LASTLY, WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTION OF BORDERS, WHICH WAS
NOT ADDRESSED IN CHANCELLOR KOHL'S SPEECH, I THINK WE SHOULD
REITERATE OUR SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HELSINKI FINAL
ACT, RECOGNIZING THE INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS IN EUROPE, AND
ALLOWING FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGE IN THOSE BORDERS ONLY
THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS.

THOSE ARE THE PRINCIPLES THAT I THINK OUGHT TO GUIDE OUR
APPROACH TO GERMAN REUNIFICATION. UNQUOTE.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO A FURTHER QUESTION ON THE NEED FOR QUOTE
FORMAL EUROPEAN CONSIDERATION OF THE GERMAN QUESTION UNQUOTE,
PERHAPS IN A CSCE CONTEXT, BAKER SAID THAT CSCE MEMBERS HAD A
DEFINITE INTEREST IN THE QUESTION OF GERMAN UNIFICATION. BUT
THE TIME WAS NOT RIPE FOR A QUOTE CONVOCAION UNQUOTE OF
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (WITH OR WITHOUT THE US AND THE SOVIET
UNION), BECAUSE THE GDR NEEDED FIRST TO TAKE VERY CLEAR STEPS TO
CREATE THE NECESSARY QUOTE CONDITIONS PRECEEDING UNQUOTE. THESE
INCLUDED MOVES TOWARDS PLURALISM (WHICH MEANT QUOTE FREE, FAIR
AND MULTI-PARTY ELECTIONS UNQUOTE) AND A FREE ECONOMIC SYSTEM).

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