

RESTRICTED

FM UKREP BRUSSELS

TO DESKBY 061800Z FCO

TELNO 3911

OF 061545Z DECEMBER 89

AND TO IMMEDIATE PARIS, BONN

INFO PRIORITY OTHER EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POSTS

FRAME ECONOMIC

STRASBOURG EUROPEAN COUNCIL: EMU

1. THE GERMAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TOLD ME ON 6 DECEMBER THAT THE FRANCO-GERMAN DEBATE ON EMU WAS REALLY HOTTING UP. KOHL HAD SENT A WRITTEN MESSAGE TO MITTERRAND ON 5 DECEMBER. THERE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM EARLY ON 6 DECEMBER.

2. TRUMPF WAS A LITTLE COY ABOUT THE PRECISE CONTENTS OF KOHL'S MESSAGE BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

[Bod] (I) THE CONCEPT THAT AN EMU TREATY SHOULD HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED, SIGNED AND RATIFIED BY THE TIME OF THE NEXT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTION (JUNE 1994) AT THE LATEST. SOME PIOUS WORDS ABOUT HOW NICE IT WOULD BE IF THE PROCESS COULD BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE SINGLE MARKET (JANUARY 1993).

[Bod] (II) A RATHER FAR-REACHING PROPOSAL ABOUT EXTENDING THE POWERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT GOING BEYOND THE EXTENSION OF POWERS REQUIRED TO COPE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY ASPECTS OF EMU.

[Good] (III) A CLEAR INDICATION THAT THE GERMANS WERE NOT PREPARED TO TAKE A DECISION AT STRASBOURG ON THE TIMING OF AN IGC.

(IV) A REQUEST FOR A SUBSTANTIAL WORK PROGRAMME TO BE UNDERTAKEN AFTER STRASBOURG AS PART OF THE 'FULL AND ADEQUATE PREPARATION' FOR AN IGC.

3. TRUMPF SAID THAT THE POINT UPPERMOST IN KOHL'S MIND NOW WAS HOW TO AVOID THE IGC ISSUE COMPLICATING THE GERMAN FEDERAL ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER 1990. TO ACHIEVE THIS IT WAS NOT ONLY NECESSARY TO AVOID THE ACTUAL MEETING OF AN IGC BEFORE THAT DATE BUT ALSO TO AVOID THE FINAL DECISION TO SUMMON THE IGC BEING TAKEN BEFORE THEN. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION, TRUMPF SAID THAT, TAKEN AT FACE VALUE, KOHL'S

RESTRICTED

07:05
MDHIAN 7899

POSITION APPEARED TO BE THAT THE DECISION TO CALL AN IGC COULD BE
TAKEN NEITHER AT STRASBOURG NOR AT DUBLIN BUT ONLY AT THE ITALIAN
EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN DECEMBER 1990.

4. TRUMPF SAID IT WAS NOT SURPRISING THAT THE FRENCH WERE FINDING
HIS MESSAGE DISTINCTLY UNPALATABLE. HE DID NOT EXCLUDE SOME WORDS
BEING FOUND IN STRASBOURG TO MASK THE PROBLEM. BUT HE DID NOT
BELIEVE THAT KOHL WOULD BE PREPARED AT STRASBOURG TO CONCEDE THE
ACTUAL SUMMONING OF AN IGC, WHETHER FOR A FIXED DATE OR FOR A
SLIGHTLY VAGUER TIME-FRAME.

HANNAY

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

197

MAIN 196

.FRAME ECONOMIC
ECD (I)

WED
MR RATFORD

ADDITIONAL 1

FRAME

NNNN

PAGE 2
RESTRICTED