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EC/GERMANY

1. WILLIAMSON (SECRETARY-GENERAL) BRIEFED MEMBER STATES LAST NIGHT ON YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSION AMONG COMMISSIONERS ABOUT EVENTS IN THE TWO GERMANIES. (A SIMILAR ACCOUNT HAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPEARED IN THE PRESS.)

2. KOHL SPOKE TO DELORS YESTERDAY MORNING TO INFORM HIS ABOUT THE LATEST STEPS APPROVED BY THE FEDERAL CABINET. IN DOING SO KOHL MADE THE POINT THAT THESE STEPS WOULD NOT INVOLVE A DELAY IN IMPLEMENTING THE EC CALENDAR ON EMU. AFTER BEING BRIEFED BY DELORS, THE COMMISSION UNDERLINED THEIR NEED TO BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED ABOUT EVENTS IN THE TWO GERMANIES. THEY ALSO NOTED THAT A GROUP CHAIRED BY BANGEMANN WOULD START TO CONSIDER THE IMPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY PRACTICES OF THE PRESENT (UNDERLINED) STEPS BEING TAKEN BY THE TWO GERMANIES. IN ADDITION, THEY RECOGNISED THE NEED AT AN APPROPRIATE STAGE TO EXAMINE THE WIDER ISSUES WHICH WOULD AFFECT THE COMMUNITY IF AND WHEN THE TWO GERMANIES ACTUALLY MOVED TO UNIFICATION (EFFECTS ON THE STRUCTURAL FUNDS, EC AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES, BUDGETARY ISSUES ETC.)

3. AS REPORTED IN MY LETTER OF 7 FEBRUARY TO KERR (NOT TO WASHINGTON/UKDEL NATO), WILLIAMSON HAD EARLIER GIVEN ME A PRIVATE BRIEFING ON COMMISSION PLANS FOR FOLLOWING, AND REACTING TO, EVENTS IN THE TWO GERMANIES. YESTERDAY'S MEETING CONFIRMED THE TWO-PART APPROACH, OF WHICH ONLY THE FIRST - FOCUSSED ON NARROWER QUESTIONS ARISING PRIOR TO ANY MOVES TO INTEGRATE THE GDR FULLY INTO THE COMMUNITY - HAS YET BEEN LAUNCHED.

HANNAY

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