

CONFIDENTIAL
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FM BONN

TO DESKBY 131615Z FCO

TELNO 182

OF 131533Z FEBRUARY 90

INFO IMMEDIATE OTTAWA, EAST BERLIN, BMG BERLIN, MOSCOW, PARIS
INFO IMMEDIATE UKDEL NATO, UKREP BRUSSELS, WASHINGTON, ACTOR
INFO IMMEDIATE CICC GERMANY

SIC

MODSH PASS TO CICC GERMANY

OTTAWA FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

GENSCHER'S CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER ON 14 FEBRUARY
GERMAN UNIFICATION

SUMMARY

1. EFFECT IN FRG OF THE KOHL/GENSCHER VISIT TO MOSCOW AND FIRST
REPORTS OUT OF OTTAWA. FRG ATTITUDE TO MODALITIES OF UNIFICATION,
AND TO DIALOGUE WITH THE FOUR POWERS. STATE OF FRG/GDR RELATIONS.

DETAIL

2. KOHL AND GENSCHEER HAVE CREATED THE CLEAR IMPRESSION HERE THAT AS
A RESULT OF THEIR VISIT TO MOSCOW THE SOVIET UNION HAS DEFINITELY
OPENED THE WAY TO GERMAN UNIFICATION. THERE IS A WIDESPREAD
EXPECTATION THAT THIS CAN HAPPEN BEFORE THE END OF 1990. THE
RELATIONSHIP OF A UNITED GERMANY WITH NATO IS REGARDED AS NOT YET
BEING IN THE BAG, BUT WITHIN SIGHT OF BEING FIXED. AS THE RESULT OF
STATEMENTS BY GOVERNMENT LEADERS THE 1990 SEQUENCE OF EVENTS NOW
IMPLANTED IN GERMAN MINDS IS:

(A) GERMAN/GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS AFTER 18 MARCH ABOUT THE MODALITIES
OF COMING TOGETHER,

(B) A CONFERENCE OF THE 'TWO PLUS FOUR' POWERS. (FUNCTION LESS
CLEAR, BUT PRESUMABLY DESIGNED IN GERMAN THINKING TO BRING TOGETHER,
AT GERMAN INITIATIVE AND TIMING, THE DOMESTIC SELF DETERMINATION
TRACK AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT OF UNIFICATION AND TO SETTLE THE
LATTER),

(C) PRESENTATION TO THE CSCE SUMMIT FOR ITS BLESSING OF THE RESULTS
OF (B).

THE TIMING OF (B) HANGS TO SOME EXTENT ON (A), WHICH IS IN TURN DEPENDENT ON THE FORMATION OF A CREDIBLE EAST GERMAN GOVERNMENT. THE SPD HAVE SUGGESTED THE SECOND HALF OF APRIL FOR A TWO PLUS FOUR CONFERENCE. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAVE SO FAR (WISELY) SAID NOTHING ON TIMING.

3. MODROW IS IN BONN TODAY. SCRATCHINESS ON THE SURFACE OF FRG/GDR REFLECTS DEEPER TENSIONS. AS SEEN IN BONN, THERE ARE TWO SEPARATE PROBLEMS, THE SOLUTIONS TO WHICH DO NOT COINCIDE. THE GDR IS THOUGHT TO BE NEAR BREAKDOWN (HOW NEAR IS BECOMING A CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE IN ITSELF). IT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO FRG POLICY HOWEVER THAT PROPERLY ORGANISED ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE IN THE GDR ON 18 MARCH. HOW SHOULD THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROP UP THE SYSTEM THEREFORE WITHOUT EITHER SELLING THE FRG'S ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES DOWN THE RIVER OR APPEARING TO GET TOO CLOSE TO AN ANCIEN REGIME WHICH COULD GIVE THE SPD EAST A GRATUITOUS ELECTORAL BOOST? MODROW AND HIS COLLEAGUES ARE NOT PROVING AS INSTANTLY PLIABLE AS HAD BEEN HOPED: PEOPLE HERE HAVE READ REPORTS OF CROSS PARTY RESENTMENT IN THE GDR OF WHAT IS SEEN AS FRG INTERFERENCE AND PATRONAGE. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL TRY HARD DURING MODROW'S VISIT TO SMOOTH OVER TENSION AND MOVE FORWARD PLANNING FOR MONETARY UNION.

4. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS ARE NEVERTHELESS BEGINNING TO FEEL THAT THEY SEE THE WAY FORWARD IN BROAD TERMS ON UNIFICATION. THEY ARE FITTING TOGETHER THE BITS OF THE JIGSAW AS THEY SEE IT, IN WHICH GENSCHER HAS ACCORDED THE FOUR POWERS A MORE IMPORTANT AND PROMINENT ROLE THAN PUBLIC OPINION HERE HAD BEEN LED TO EXPECT. THE NETTLE OF BORDERS IS ALSO BEING GRASPED: KOHL APPEARS TO BE SAYING THAT ONCE THE TWO GERMANY'S CAN SPEAK AS ONE VOICE, THEY WILL GIVE THE NECESSARY GUARANTEES. IMPORTANT ASPECTS REMAIN UNRESOLVED, EVEN IN OUTLINE: NOTABLY HOW THE TWO GERMANY'S WILL COME TOGETHER, WHETHER BY THE GDR ACCEDING TO THE FRG OR BY A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE INVOLVING BOTH COUNTRIES. PROCEDURE WILL NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL AFTER 18 MARCH. IT COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT IMPACT ON THE TIMETABLE FOR AND EXTERNAL ASPECTS OF UNIFICATION.

NEVILLE - JONES

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ADVANCE

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.BERLIN/INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS
.(WIDE)
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HD/NEWS
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MRS GLOVER LEGAL ADV