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GERMAN UNIFICATION: PROPOSED MEETINGS OF TWO AND FOUR:

STATEMENT OF SIX FOREIGN MINISTERS

1. WE HAVE ALREADY FAXED TO DEPARTMENT THE TEXT WHICH THE SIX FOREIGN MINISTERS GAVE TO THE PRESS THIS AFTERNOON IN THE MARGINS OF THE OPEN SKIES CONFERENCE. IT READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: STATEMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES HAD TALKS IN OTTAWA. THEY AGREED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC WOULD MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS EXTERNAL ASPECTS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GERMAN UNITY, INCLUDING THE ISSUES OF SECURITY OF THE NEIGHBOURING STATES. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.

UNQUOTE.

2. WHEN THE TEXT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY READ OUT TO A MEETING OF THE NATO CAUCUS, AT THE REQUEST OF VAN DEN BROEK (NETHERLANDS), HE IMMEDIATELY QUESTIONED THE REFERENCE TO DISCUSSION OF SECURITY OF THE NEIGHBOURING STATES, EMPHASISING THAT THE NETHERLANDS WERE ONE SUCH AND THAT HE WOULD FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN WHY THE FOUR POWERS WERE CLAIMING THE RIGHT TO DISCUSS THIS PARTICULAR QUESTION. WITH SUPPORT FROM BAKER, AND TO A LESSER AND LESS TACTFUL EXTENT FROM THE FRENCH AND GERMAN OPEN SKIES AMBASSADORS WHO WERE IN THEIR DELEGATION SEATS, YOU EXPLAINED THE BACKGROUND TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE TEXT. YOU EMPHASISED, AS DID BAKER, THE NEED TO FIND AND TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH THE TWO GERMANIES SOME OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROCESS UNDER WAY, AND ADDED THAT IT WAS CLEAR FROM BILATERAL TALKS IN THE MARGINS THAT THE QUESTION OF POLISH FRONTIERS WAS BECOMING ACUTE: THIS WAS THE REASON WHY THE WORDS ABOUT THE SECURITY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES HAD BEEN INCLUDED. YOU POINTED

OUT ALSO THAT THE TEXT DID NOT CLAIM THAT THE FORUM OF THE SIX WOULD BE THE ONLY ONE INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION OF EXTERNAL ASPECTS: THE OMISSION OF QUOTE THE UNQUOTE BEFORE QUOTE EXTERNAL ASPECTS UNQUOTE HAD BEEN DELIBERATE. IT WAS IN SHORT NOT A CLAIM TO EXCLUSIVITY, AND YOU MADE QUITE CLEAR YOUR VIEW THAT NATO POINTS WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED IN NATO.

3. DE MICHELIS (ITALY) INTERVENED IN SUPPORT OF VAN DEN BROEK, RATCHETING THE LEVEL OF COMPLAINT A GOOD FEW NOTCHES FURTHER UP, BY CLAIMING THAT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH TO SAY THAT THE POINTS OF INTEREST TO NATO SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN NATO. ITALY WAS A SIGNATORY OF THE FINAL ACT, AND WAS DIRECTLY INTERESTED IN THE QUESTION OF POLISH FRONTIERS.

4. VAN DEN BROEK INTERVENED AGAIN TO EXPLAIN THAT HE HAD NO PROBLEMS WITH THE FACT THAT THE SIX HAD AGREED TO MEET, AND THAT HIS CONCERNS WOULD BE MET IF THE TEXT COULD BE REDRAFTED TO READ, QUOTE INCLUDING WHERE APPROPRIATE ISSUES OF SECURITY OF NEIGHBOURING STATES UNQUOTE. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION AND SOME CONVERSATION IN THE MARGINS BETWEEN

GENSCHER (WHO HAD BY THEN RETURNED) AND VAN DEN BROEK, IT WAS ACCEPTED THAT THE TEXT COULD NOT BE RE-NEGOTIATED AND THAT THE ITALIAN SUGGESTION OF A BILATERAL STATEMENT BY NATO COUNTRIES WOULD NOT FIND GENERAL AGREEMENT. IT WAS LEFT THAT CLARK WOULD TAKE AN OPPORTUNITY AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER THE MINISTERIAL MEETING HAD ADJOURNED TO MENTION THE NATO CAUCUS AND SAY THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE TWO AND THE FOUR AND MEMBER STATES THAT IT WAS CLEAR TO THEM THAT THE REFERENCE TO NEIGHBOURING STATES IS NOT A REFERENCE TO MEMBERS OF NATO UNQUOTE. WE MONITORED CLARK'S PRESS CONFERENCE, AT WHICH HE USED THE PRECISE FORM OF WORDS AS AGREED. ASKED WHY THE FOUR WERE INVOLVED RATHER THAN ANY OTHER GROUPS, HE STATED THAT THEY HAVE CERTAIN RESIDUAL OBLIGATIONS WHICH ARISE FROM THEIR LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND STATUS STEMMING FROM WORLD WAR TWO. PRESSED AS TO THE REACTION OF SMALLER ALLIANCE MEMBERS TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT, HE COMMENTED THAT HE FORESAW FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITHIN NATO. HE ADDED THAT HE ANTICIPATED QUOTE OTHER DISCUSSIONS IN OTHER FORA REGARDING THE EXTERNAL EFFECTS OF UNIFICATION UNQUOTE.

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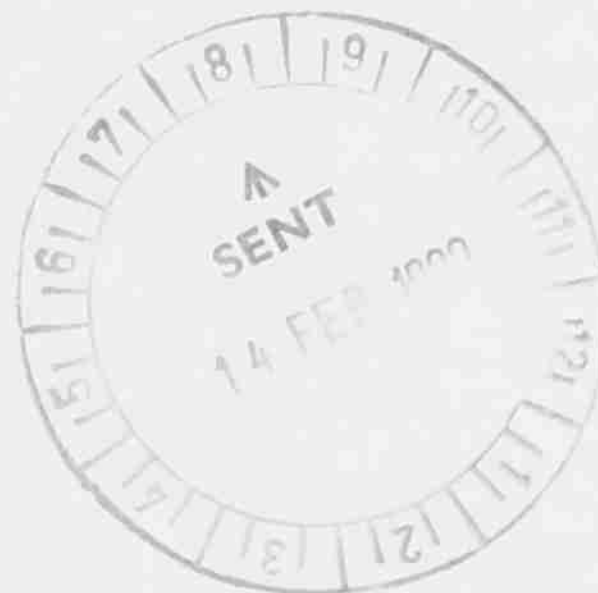
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