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Amnesti: e
De Riddis come
here near Friday
CBM

GERMAN REUNIFICATION: PROPOSED MEETINGS OF TWO AND FOUR: ITALIAN
VIEWS

SUMMARY

1. DE MICHELIS COMPLAINS ABOUT THE EXCLUSION OF ITALY AND OTHER
COUNTRIES FROM THE TWO PLUS FOUR TALKS ON GERMAN REUNIFICATION.

DETAIL

2. ACCORDING TO THE ITALIAN PRESS, ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DE
MICHELIS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN OTTAWA YESTERDAY ON THE
QUESTION OF GERMAN UNIFICATION (OUR TRANSLATION):

QUOTE. IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE TWO GERMANY'S AND THE FOUR
GUARANTOR POWERS HAVE SEEN FIT TO CONSULT EACH OTHER OVER THE
GERMAN QUESTION. THIS REPRESENTS AN EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF THE
DIRECT EFFECTS OF UNIFICATION ON EXTERNAL INTERESTS. IT IS CLEAR TO
ITALY THAT SUCH INTERESTS OBVIOUSLY GO BEYOND THOSE OF THE FOUR
GUARANTOR POWERS.

UNQUOTE.

3. TALKING INFORMALLY TO JOURNALISTS LATER, DE MICHELIS COMPLAINED
THAT ITALY HAD BEEN 'CUT OUT' AND WOULD ONLY HAVE LEARNT ABOUT THE
TWO PLUS FOUR AGREEMENT FROM NEWSPAPER REPORTS IF THE DUTCH FOREIGN
MINISTER HAD NOT RAISED THE ISSUE. HE SAID THAT ITALY SHARED THE
SENTIMENTS OF DELORS WHEN HE SAID THAT HE WAS TIRED OF ALWAYS BEING
INFORMED BUT NEVER CONSULTED.

4. DE MICHELIS WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ITALY RECOGNISED THE
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR POWERS FOR BERLIN, BUT DISCUSSION OF
GERMAN BORDERS HAD TO INCLUDE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES SUCH AS
POLAND. ITALY TOO HAD AN INTEREST. THE PROPER FORA FOR SUCH A
DISCUSSION WERE NATO, THE EC AND ABOVE ALL THE CSCE. ITALY WOULD
SUPPORT THE DELORS PROPOSAL (SIC) FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY EUROPEAN
COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE GDR ELECTIONS.

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5. DE MICHELIS IS REPORTED TO HAVE ADDED THAT SINCE THE GDR COULD BE ALLOWED INTO THE EC 'WITHIN MONTHS', THE NEGOTIATION ON AUSTRIA'S ACCESSION SHOULD BEGIN AT ONCE. ITALY HAD A SPECIAL INTEREST IN AUSTRIA'S EARLY ACCESSION: 'IN A COMMON MARKET WHICH IS INCREASINGLY BIASED TOWARDS THE NORTH AND CENTRE OF THE CONTINENT, WE (ITALY) RUN THE RISK OF REMAINING ATTACHED TO EUROPE ONLY BY A STRIP OF BORDER WITH FRANCE, WHICH WILL NOT BRING US SUFFICIENT BENEFITS FROM THE OPENING OF FRONTIERS.'

EGERTON

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