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SAVING OTHER EC POSTS AND EAST EUROPEAN POSTS

Time short
Reluctant to meeting tomorrow.
am
mt

MIPT: DE MICHELIS ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

SUMMARY

1. DE MICHELIS ACCEPTS THAT AN IGC WILL NOT HAPPEN BEFORE DECEMBER 1990, BUT HOPES THAT IT WILL FINISH BY APRIL 1991 AND THAT POLITICAL UNION CAN BE ACHIEVED BY JUNE 1994. HE CALLS FOR A NEW EUROPEAN DEFENCE SYSTEM BASED ON THE CSCE.

totally unrealistic.

DETAIL

2. FOREIGN MINISTER DE MICHELIS ADDRESSED THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BUDGET COMMISSIONS OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES ON 21 FEBRUARY, CONCENTRATING ON GERMANY AND EC INTEGRATION. AFTER RESTATING HIS VIEW THAT THE TWO PLUS FOUR POWERS SHOULD LIMIT THEMSELVES TO DISCUSSING BERLIN, HE WENT ON TO IDENTIFY FOUR 'DYNAMICS' IN EUROPE:

- (A) THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION
- (B) THE 'REORGANISATION OF EUROPE'S DEFENCE SYSTEM'
- (C) RELATIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST EUROPE
- (D) GERMAN UNIFICATION.

3. DE MICHELIS SAID THAT THERE WERE THREE WAYS OF HARMONISING THESE PROCESSES:

- (I) BY ANCHORING GERMAN UNIFICATION IN THE PROCESS OF COMMUNITY INTEGRATION
- (II) BY CONVENING A SECOND HELSINKI CONFERENCE, TO CREATE 'A SINGLE EUROPEAN DEFENCE SYSTEM'
- (III) BY DEFINING A NEW EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE, BASED FIRST ON THE EC, THEN ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND EFTA, AND FINALLY THROUGH A SPECIAL ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE EC AND INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE.

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4. DE MICHELIS OUTLINED HIS TIMETABLE FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. ITALY WOULD NOT PROPOSE BRINGING FORWARD THE IGC FROM DECEMBER 1990, BUT HOPED THAT IT WOULD HAVE FINISHED ITS WORK BY SPRING 1991. HE SUGGESTED THAT A SECOND PARALLEL CONFERENCE BE SET UP TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE TREATY OF ROME ALLOWING GREATER POLITICAL INTEGRATION, IN PARTICULAR STRENGTHENING THE POWERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COMMISSION. ITALY'S ULTIMATE AIM WAS TO HAVE FULL POLITICAL UNION BY JUNE 1994 - IE WITHIN THE LIFETIME OF THE CURRENT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. DE MICHELIS WAS SURE THAT ALL EC MEMBERS WOULD AGREE WITH SUCH A TIMETABLE, 'EXCEPT I SUPPOSE, GREAT BRITAIN'.

WOOD

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