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INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO, MODUK

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MODUK FOR DUS(P), AUS(POL), ACDS (POL/NUC)

WASHINGTON TELNO 608 AND UKDEL NATO TELNO 114 : NUCLEAR DETERRENCE
IN EUROPE

SUMMARY

1. STOLTENBERG URGES EARLY SNF NEGOTIATIONS, TO INCLUDE ABOLITION OF
NUCLEAR ARTILLERY. NO (NO) SUPPORT HERE FOR FOTL OR NUCLEAR
ARTILLERY.

DETAIL

2. IN A SPEECH ON 12 MARCH, STOLTENBERG CALLED FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON
'DRASTIC REDUCTIONS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE' TO FOLLOW SOON
AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF CFE. PROVIDED THAT THE MASSIVE SOVIET
SUPERIORITY WAS REMOVED, THE WEST COULD SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE ITS
STOCK OF SUB-STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE AND ACHIEVE A
BALANCE WITH A VERY SMALL PORTION OF TODAY'S STOCK. AS FOR NUCLEAR
TUBE ARTILLERY (COMMENT: AS DISTINCT FROM MLRS), STOLTENBERG SAID
FOR THE FIRST TIME 'WE WANT TO ACHIEVE COMPLETE ABOLITION IN THE
FRAMEWORK OF SUCH A TREATY'. (COMMENT: THIS MEANS THAT STOLTENBERG
NOW AGREES WITH GENSCHER THAT NUCLEAR ARTILLERY SHOULD BE INCLUDED
IN THE SNF NEGOTIATIONS.) HE SAID THAT 'THESE SYSTEMS' HAD NO
FUTURE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF GERMAN UNIFICATION AND THE
OVERCOMING OF THE DIVISION OF EUROPE. COMPLETE DENUCLEARISATION OF
EUROPE OR GERMANY, HOWEVER, WOULD NOT PROMOTE STABILITY BUT WOULD
LET REGIONAL POLITICAL CONFLICTS BECOME MORE DANGEROUS.

3. CDU/CSU FIGURES SUCH AS DREGGER (PARLIAMENTARY LEADER) AND LAMERS
(DISARMAMENT SPOKESMAN) HAVE SAID RECENTLY THAT IN THE LIGHT OF THE
CHANGED POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN EUROPE FOTL AND NUCLEAR ARTILLERY
WERE NO LONGER MEANINGFUL, BUT AIR-LAUNCHED SYSTEMS WITH THE RANGE
TO REACH THE SOVIET UNION WERE STILL NECESSARY. LAMERS HAS SUGGESTED
THAT THE 'STRUCTURE AND SIZE' OF SUCH SYSTEMS SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED
WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN PARALLEL WITH THE SNF NEGOTIATIONS.

4. FDP POLICY (MY TELNO 057) IS THE ''BALANCED ELEMINATION OF SHORT-RANGE NUCLEAR MISSILES AND NUCLEAR ARTILLERY ON BOTH SIDES'' AND ''PRIOR RENUNCIATION OF MODERNISATION OF THESE WEAPONS''. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH WHAT GENSCHER IS SAID TO HAVE AGREED WITH STOLTENBERG (UKDEL NATO TUR). I AGREE WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS SPD VIEWS IN PARA 5(B) OF WASHINGTON TUR. GENSCHER WANTS TO GET RID OF LAND BASED MISSILES AND ARTILLERY, IS RETICENT ABOUT TASM BUT DOES NOT FAVOUR DENUCLEARISATION. IT IS INTERESTING (SECOND TUR) THAT HE IS WILLING AT PRESENT TO ENTERTAIN THE IDEA OF TASM ONE DAY. IF EAST-WEST AND GERMAN DEVELOPMENTS SEEMED LATER TO JUSTIFY OPPOSITION TO TASM, GENSCHER MIGHT GO THAT WAY.

5. ASPIN'S CLAIM (PARA 5(A) OF WASHINGTON TUR) THAT THE LATEST US MILITARY NET ASSESSMENT IMPLIES THAT EUROPE CAN BE DEFENDED WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS BEEN REPLAYED IN THE GERMAN PRESS. FAR FROM CARRYING THE PENTAGON REBUTTAL, HOWEVER, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT A PENTAGON OFFICIAL AGREED WITH ASPIN'S INTERPRETATION. BUT THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE (CONSERVATIVE) HAD A LEADER ON 15 MARCH WARNING THAT NUCLEAR DETERRENCE REMAINED THE BEST MEANS OF PREVENTING WAR IN EUROPE, AND WAS ONLY CREDIBLE IF THE US NUCLEAR UMBRELLA OVER EUROPE DID NOT HAVE TOO MANY HOLES. FMOD HAVE PLAY DOWN THE STUDY.

6. NAUMANN'S CASE FOR BRINGING SNF NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD DEPENDS HEAVILY ON WHETHER THE RUSSIANS ARE LIKELY TO PRESS FOR DENUCLEARISATION OF GERMANY. GERMAN PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BE STEADIER IN THE FACE OF SUCH PRESURE IF SNF NEGOTIATIONS WERE IN EARLY PROSPECT. WE KNOW THAT TELTSCHIK SHARES THE AMERICAN CONCERNS (WASHINGTON TUR), THAT IF THE RUSSIANS DID INDEED MAKE DENUCLEARISATION OF GERMANY THE PRICE OF UNIFICATION, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MIGHT FIND THE PRESSURES IRRESISTIBLE. THE FACT OF THE ALLIANCE HAVING MADE AN OFFER OF EARLY SNF NEGOTIATIONS WOULD REDUCE THE ABILITY OF THE SPD TO EXPLOIT THE ISSUE TO THE COALITION'S DISADVANTAGE AND WOULD HELP KOHL IN THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS IN DECEMBER.

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