

271430Z
IN DVD
LNMDAN 0155 BPLNAN 0189
UNCLASSIFIED
OO FCOLN
FM BONNN TO FCOLN
271256Z APR
GRS 387

UNCLASSIFIED
FM BONN
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 534
OF 271256Z APRIL 90
INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, DUBLIN, PARIS
INFO ROUTINE EAST BERLIN, OTHER EC POSTS

FRAME GENERAL

MY TELNOS 524 AND 531: DUBLIN SUMMIT

SUMMARY

1. GERMAN PRESS EXPECT DISCUSSION OF UNIFICATION TO BE QUICKLY DISPATCHED. PRESS INTEREST NOW FOCUSSED ON POLITICAL UNION AND THE UK'S ATTITUDE TO IT.

DETAIL

2. GERMAN NEWSPAPERS ON 27 APRIL, FORESHADOWING THE DUBLIN SPECIAL SUMMIT, MADE THREE PRINCIPAL POINTS:

A) DISCUSSION OF GERMAN UNIFICATION WOULD BE SHORT AND UNCONTROVERSIAL. PARTNERS WERE EXPECTED TO WELCOME THE INTEGRATION OF THE GDR BASED ON THE COMMISSION'S PAPER.

B) POLITICAL UNION WOULD BE THE SECOND THEME OF THE MEETING. DEBATE WOULD BE BASED ON THE KOHL/MITTERRAND INITIATIVE.

C) THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONTRIBUTION TO THIS DEBATE WAS "TENSELY AWAITED".

2. THE FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU (CENTRE-LEFT) CLAIMED BRITISH DIPLOMATS WERE STRESSING THE FACT THAT BONN AND PARIS WERE IN NO WAY AGREED ABOUT POLITICAL UNION AND THAT AT LEAST DENMARK AND LUXEMBOURG ALSO HAD RESERVATIONS SIMILAR TO LONDON'S. IN THE GENERAL ANZEIGER (INDEPENDENT), THOMAS WITTKE WHO HAS GOOD CONTACTS IN THE AUSWAERTIGES AMT, SAID THAT THE GOAL WAS FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN ROME TO BE ABLE TO CONVENE A SECOND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE. BONN DID NOT EXPECT SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION FROM THE UK BECAUSE YOU HAD ALREADY MADE CLEAR THAT WHILST THE UK OPPOSED THE TRANSFER OF MORE SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EC, THE UK WOULD NOT PURSUE AN "EMPTY CHAIR" POLICY. THE UK WANTED ITS IDEAS TO BE KNOWN. HANDELSBLATT (FT-EQUIVALENT) SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT WANT POLITICAL UNION TO BE THE PREDOMINANT SUBJECT, BUT BRITISH MINISTERS REALISED THAT LONDON COULD NOT PREVENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CLOSER POLITICAL UNION WITH ITS VETO. IT SEEMED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD BEEN PERSUADED THAT BRITISH ISOLATION IN THE EC COULD BECOME CRITICAL UNLESS BRITAIN ADOPTED A FLEXIBLE STRATEGY. LONDON WANTED TO TAKE A FULL PART IN DISCUSSION. WELT CARRIED AN INTERVIEW WITH COMMISSIONER SCHMIDHUBER, WHO HAD "THE IMPRESSION THAT THE BRITISH DID NOT WANT TO BLOCK NEGOTIATIONS OVER POLITICAL UNION... THAT LONDON HAS A

DIFFERENT POLITICAL CONCEPT IS NO SECRET. IF I UNDERSTAND LONDON
CORRECTLY IT WANTS TO PUT FORWARD ITS OWN CONTRASTING PROGRAMME...
IN MY OPINION THAT IS A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH."

MALLABY

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ADVANCE	20	
.FRAME GENERAL		1
PS		1
PS/MR MAUDE		1
PS/PUS		1
MR BAYNE		1
MR KERR		1
HD/ECD(I)		3
HD/NEWS D		1
MR D A HADLEY CABINET OFFICE		1
MR B BENDER CABINET OFFICE		1
MR J OXFORD CABINET OFFICE		1
MR L PARKER CABINET OFFICE		1
MR N L WICKS HMT		1
MR H P EVANS HMT		1
MR R ALLEN HMT		1
MR M. MERCER HMT		1
MR C ROBERTS DTI VIC ST		1
PERMAMENT SECRETARY MAFF		1
MAIN	354	
.FRAME GENERAL		353
ECD (I) [-]		1
ADDITIONAL	1	
FRAME		1
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