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TWO PLUS FOUR TALKS: BRIEFING OF NAC MINISTERIAL

SUMMARY

1. AT THE END OF TODAY'S MINISTERIAL NAC ON THE GULF CRISIS, GENSCHER GAVE A SHORT BRIEF ON THE PROSPECTS FOR CONCLUDING THE TWO PLUS FOUR PROCESS AT THIS WEEK'S MINISTERIAL MEETING IN MOSCOW: ADMITTING THAT THERE ARE STILL UNRESOLVED ISSUES.

DETAIL

2. GENSCHER SAID THAT THE FINAL ROUND OF TWO PLUS FOUR TALKS WOULD TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK. THE MAIN OBJECTIVES WERE:

- TO RETURN FULL SOVEREIGNTY TO A UNITED GERMANY, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO DECIDE ON MEMBERSHIP OF AN ALLIANCE.
- TO AGREE THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET FORCES FROM GERMAN SOIL BY 31 DECEMBER 1994.

3. GENSCHER SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT TO BE SIGNED WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A PEACE TREATY. THE NECESSARY PRECONDITIONS FOR AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME HAD BEEN:

- THE RESOLVE TO INSTITUTIONALISE THE CSCE PROCESS AND CREATE A PAN-EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK.
- THE LONDON DECLARATION.
- THE DECLARATION IN CFE BY THE TWO GERMAN STATES ON THE LIMITATION OF GERMAN FORCES TO 370,000.
- CONFIRMATION OF GERMANY'S RENUNCIATION OF ABC WEAPONS.

GENSCHER SAID THE PREAMBLE WOULD INTER ALIA REFER TO THE BORDER

QUESTION. THE AGREEMENT WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT GERMAN POLICY WOULD IN FUTURE BE EXCLUSIVELY PEACEFUL. IT WOULD ALSO CONTAIN PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SECURITY POLICY STATUS OF THE PRESENT GDR.

4. GENESCHER SAID THAT THERE WERE TWO QUESTIONS WHICH REMAINED UNSETTLED: THESE RELATED, FIRST, TO THE POSSIBLE MOVEMENT OF ALLIED FORCES INTO THE FORMER GDR, AND SECOND, TO THE QUESTION OF DUAL CAPABLE SYSTEMS.

5. GENESCHER REPORTED ALSO ON BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RUSSIANS. FOUR AGREEMENTS WERE INVOLVED. THE FIRST DEALT WITH LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE TEMPORARY STATIONING OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE PRESENT GDR. THIS AGREEMENT WAS 90 PERCENT COMPLETE. SOVIET FORCES WOULD LEAVE IN STAGES. THE MAIN MOVEMENTS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN 1992: THERE WOULD BE FEWER IN 1991 BECAUSE OF THE SEVERE RELOCATION PROBLEMS CURRENTLY BEING EXPERIENCED IN THE SOVIET UNION AS A RESULT OF THE WITHDRAWALS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HUNGARY. SOVIET FORCES REMAINING IN GERMANY WOULD CONDUCT NO LARGE SCALE EXERCISES. PROBLEMS REMAINING TO BE RESOLVED RELATED TO THE USE OF AIR SPACE AND TO REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS.

6. GENESCHER SAID THAT THE SECOND AGREEMENT, WHICH HAD BEEN FINALISED, CONCERNED GOOD NEIGHBOURLY RELATIONS. THE THIRD COVERED ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION.

7. THE FOURTH AGREEMENT DEALT WITH PROBLEMS OF TRANSITION. TWO ASPECTS HAD FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- THE EFFECT ON SOVIET FORCES OF THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DEUTSCHMARK IN THE GDR.
- FINANCIAL AID TO THE SOVIET UNION IN CONNECTION WITH FORCE WITHDRAWAL (EG ASSISTANCE IN BUILDING ACCOMMODATION AND RETRAINING SOLDIERS).

GENSCHER SAID THAT THE LANGUAGE OF THE RELEVANT ARTICLES HAD BEEN FINALISED: THE SUMS OF MONEY INVOLVED HAD NOT YET BEEN AGREED. KOHL AND GORBACHEV WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER BY TELEPHONE TODAY.

8. GENSCHER SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS CONFIDENT THAT OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS COULD BE SOLVED BY 12 SEPTEMBER, THUS ENABLING THE TWO PLUS FOUR PROCESS TO BE COMPLETED. RATIFICATION IN THE (AFTER 3 OCTOBER) FIVE STATES CONCERNED WOULD THEN BE NECESSARY.

*File sum
is removed
to be
\$8bn*

9. IN CONCLUSION, GENSCHER PAID TRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT GERMANY HAD RECEIVED FROM THE ALLIES MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED. IN THE BROADER CONTEXT, THE MORAL STRENGTH AND FIRM POLITICAL POSITION ADOPTED BY THE ALLIANCE FOR MANY YEARS (EG INSUCCESSIVE COMMUNIQUE) HAD BEEN DECISIVE IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE HISTORIC CHANGES WHICH WERE NOW OCCURRING.

10. BECAUSE OF TIME PRESSURE, THE CHAIRMAN GAVE NO OPPORTUNITY FOR MINISTERS TO COMMENT OR TO PUT QUESTIONS TO GENSCHER.

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