

GRS 575

UNCLASSIFIED

FM BONN 041251Z OCT 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 827 OF 4 OCTOBER

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON PARIS UKDEL NATO UKREP BRUSSELS CICC(G)  
INFO SAVING ANKARA ATHENS DUBLIN COPENHAGEN LISBON THE HAGUE  
LUXEMBOURG MADRID BRUSSELS OSLO REYKJAVIK ROME MOSCOW EAST BERLIN  
UKMIS NEW YORK BMG BERLIN CONSULATES-GENERAL IN THE FRG.

MIPT: CHANCELLOR KOHL' POLICIES

1. IN HIS INTERVIEW OVER THE WEEKEND, KOHL SAID THAT THE MAIN TASK FACING HIS GOVERNMENT BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS ON 6 MARCH WOULD BE TO PASS THROUGH PARLIAMENT A NEW 1983 FEDERAL BUDGET. HE SAID LITTLE ABOUT WHAT CONCRETE ECONOMIC MEASURES HE FORESAW BUT, IN A SEPARATE INTERVIEW, STOLTENBERG, FINANCE MINISTER DESIGNATE, SPOKE MORE FULLY (SEE SEPERATE TELEGRAM).
2. KOHL SAID THAT SHORTAGE OF TIME WOULD PREVENT OTHER MAJOR INITIATIVES ON DOMESTIC POLICY. BUT HE SINGLED OUT TURKISH WORKERS IN THE FRG AS A PROBLEM WHICH WAS CRITICAL. THE NUMBER OF TURKS HERE WAS TOO GREAT, ALTHOUGH THEY HAD COME AT GERMAN INVITATION, NEITHER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM NOR THE LABOUR MARKET COULD MAINTAIN THEM ANY LONGER. QUOTE REASONABLE, HUMANE AND SOCIALLY CORRECT STEPS MUST BE INTRODUCED AS QUICKLYEDPOSSIBLE TO, ENABLE THEM TO GO HOME UNQUOTE.
3. KOHL SAID THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE GDR. HE WOULD SEEK AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A TALK WITH HONECKER. HIS STARTING POINT WAS THE BASIC LAW WHICH CALLED ON ALL GERMANS TO STAND BY THE UNITY OF THE NATION. THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE PROSPECT OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION. IT COULD TAKE MANY GENERATIONS. BUT THE GOAL SHOULD NOT BE LOST AND, TO THAT END, CONTACTS BETWEEN GERMANS FROM THE FRG AND GDR MUST BE DEVELOPED. BUT THERE MUST ALSO BE A BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN BENEFITS AND COMMITMENTS IN INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS.
4. ON THE EC, KOHL SAID HIS POLICY WAS QUOTE A NEW START UNQUOTE WITH THE AIM OF FURTHERING EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. AT PRESENT THINGS WERE PITIFUL. UNLESS PROGRESS AWAY FROM THE CURRENT STAGNATION IN EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT A NEW EUROPE WAS MADE IN THE 1980'S, THE CHANCE WOULD BE LOST FOR A LONG TIME.
5. ON NATO, KOHL SAID HIS AIM WAS STABILISATION. NATO WAS LESS A MILITARY PACT THAN A COMMUNITY OF IDEAS. RELATIONS WITH AMERICA MUST BE REASONABLE, FRIENDLY AND ON A BASIS OF PARTNERSHIP. THE AMERICANS MUST KNOW THAT THEY HAD TRUE FRIENDS IN THE GERMANS BUT NOT QUOTE UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORTERS IN ALL THINGS.

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THERE HAD ALWAYS BEEN, AND WOULD REMAIN, DIFFERENCES OF INTEREST BETWEEN BONN AND WASHINGTON. CDU/CSU CRITICISMS OF THE D GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN MADE BECAUSE OF THESE, BUT BECAUSE THAT THE SPD HAD PUT RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON ON EQUAL FOOTING.

6. ON THE PIPELINE, KOHL SAID THAT HE HAD ALWAYS BEEN SCEPTICAL ABOUT THE PROJECT BUT LEGAL AGREEMENTS WERE NOW IN FORCE AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC MUST HOLD TO ITS COMMITMENTS. HE CRITICISED THE AMERICANS FOR HAVING FIRST AGREED TO SOME DELIVERIES AND THEN RETRACTED THAT AGREEMENT. THE WESTERN ALLIANCE AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY SHOULD LEARN FROM THIS THAT IN FUTURE THEY SHOULD COME TOGETHER AND REACH BINDING AGREEMENTS BEFORE TAKING ACTION. QUOTE I WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE FOR SOME KIND OF INSTRUMENT TO BE BROUGHT INTO BEING WHICH WILL IN FUTURE PREVENT SUCH DRIFTING APART UNQUOTE (A REFERENCE TO THE CDU/CSU AIM OF A CONSULTATIVE BODY WITHIN THE NATO FRAMEWORK - MY TELNO 809).

7. ON OSTPOLITIK, KOHL SAID THAT THE EXISTING TREATIES WOULD BE UPHELD AND DEVELOPED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. THE FRG WANTED TO BE A RELIABLE PARTNER FOR BOTH EAST AND WEST.

8. ON DISARMAMENT, KOHL SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT STOOD FOR A QUOTE REAL CONTROLLED AND WORLD-WIDE DISARMAMENT UNQUOTE. BUT THE FRG MUST BE IN A POSITION TO DEFEND ITS FREEDOM. THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF UNILATERAL DISARMAMENT: BOTH SIDES MUST TAKE MEASURES SIDE BY SIDE. QUOTE EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW THAT WE FULLY SUPPORT THE NATO DOUBLE DECISION UNQUOTE.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ABOVE EXCEPT BMG BERLIN AND C-G'S IN FRG.

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

TAYLOR

FCO/WHITEHALL

WED