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SECTION 81 OF 82 BONN 15871

TAGS: MARR, DVIP, US, UK, FR, GW, NATO, MILI SUBJECT: VISIT OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO THE FRG: SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS

REF: STATE 214931

BEGIN SUMMARYS EMBOFFS MET WITH DEFENSE MINISTER LEGER'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT DR. STUETZLE FOR A PRELIMINARY DIRCUSSION ABOUT THE SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS WHICH THE THO MINISTERS MIGHT WISH TO EXAMINE AT BERCHTESGADEN. MOST ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO THE PROBLEM OF FRENCH PARTICIPA-TYDN IN NATO STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS. END SUMMARY

EMBOFFS AND STUETZLE DISCUSSED HOW THE GENTLER ATTITUDE CONCERNING STANDARDIZATION WHICH THE PRENCH

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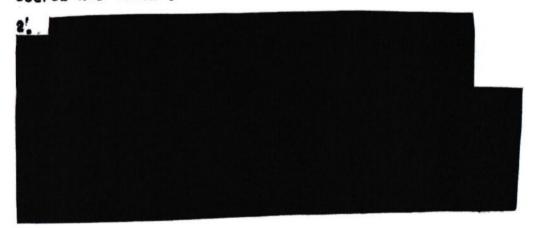
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HAVE RECENTLY SHOWN IN NATO HIGHT PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION ON THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC. SINCE SECRETARY SCHLESINSER WOULD BE SEGING PRENCH DEPENSE MINISTER BOURGES IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS GERMAN VISIT, MINISTER LEBER'S VIEWS AS TO HOW BEST TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE FRENCH WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL AND TIMELY.



3. STUETZLE NOTED THAT THE QUESTION OF THIRD COUNTRY SALES WAS ONE OF THE MAIN PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF STANDARDIZATION. FRANCE IN PARTICULAR DEPENDS UPON SUCH SALES AS AN IMPORTANT FAVORABLE ELEMENT IN ITS BALANCE OF TRADE. STUETZLE REMARKED THAT THIS ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM WAS NOT IMPORTANT FOR THE FRE TODAY. HOWEVER, THE WHOLE QUESTION OF SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO NON-NATO COUNTRIES WAS ONE WHICH THE FRG WAS GOING TO HAVE TO RESTUDY.

4. STUETZLE TOOK THE OCCASION TO REITERATE THE FRG'S LONG STANDING POSITION THAT STANDARDIZATION MUST BE A THO MAY STREET. EMBOFFS REMARKED THAT THE AMERICAN DECISION TO BUY THE ROLAND ANTI-AIR SYSTEM AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW THE LEOPARD TWO TO COMPETE WITH THE XM-1 TANK INDICATED THAT THE US APPRECIATED THIS FRG POSITION. IN REPLY STUETZLE SAID THAT THERE WERE GRUMBLINGS AMONG FRG MILITARY OFFICERS CONCERNING HOW THE TANK-COMPETITION WAS PROGRESSING, ALTHOUGH HE, STUETZLE-WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS.

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5. IN DISCUSSING THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE EUROGROUP
TO THE BROADER TOPIC OF NATO STANDARDIZATION, STUETZLE
EMPHASIZED THAT THE FRG REMAINED A FIRM SUPPORTER OF
THE EUROGROUP. THE FRG IS NOT WILLING TO ABANDON OR.
MODIFY THAT ORGANIZATION "AS LONG AS NO OTHER REASONABLE
MAY EXISTS." HOWEVER, STUETZLE ADDED, IF THE FRENCH
"WILL DISCOVER THEIR OWN INTEREST," THE FRG "MIGHT LOOK
TO OTHER WAYS." IN THIS CONNECTION STUETZLE REFERRED TO
A CONVERSATION BETWEEN PRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER
SAUVAGNARQUES AND MINISTER LEBER. THE PRENCH FOREIGN
MINISTER, FOR HIS PART, HAD LAMENTED THAT THE EUROGROUP
MAS AN EXISTING ORGANIZATION. ACCORDING TO
SAUVAGNARGUES, THERE MOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH FRENCH
MEMBERSHIP IF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EUROGROUP HAD
BEEN OR WERE TO BE A FRENCH INITIATIVE. DURING

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