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~~SECRET~~ STATE 035478
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~~SECRET~~ ORDER
TAGS: PARM, NATO, INF
SUBJECT: SCG: DUTCH AND BASING COUNTRIES GROUP

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JAN 02 2010

1. ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD INFORM SCG REPS OF THE FOLLOWING AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, DRAWING ON THE TALKING POINTS BELOW:

-- AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING FOR SOME TIME WHEN WOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE TIME FOR THE NETHERLANDS TO JOIN THE "QUINT" GROUP (U.S. AND INF BASING COUNTRIES) WHICH MEETS TO DISCUSS PUBLIC HANDLING AND OTHER ISSUES PRIOR TO THE FULL SCG MEETINGS.

-- IN LIGHT OF THE PROGRESS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS HAS BEEN MAKING ON PREPARATIONS FOR INF BASING, AND TO ENCOURAGE FURTHER PROGRESS, SECRETARY SHULTZ EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO PRIME MINISTER LUBBERS DURING THEIR DECEMBER MEETING IN THE HAGUE FOR THE DUTCH TO JOIN THE SCG QUINT. PRIME MINISTER LUBBERS CONVEYED HIS GOVERNMENT'S ACCEPTANCE TO VICE PRESIDENT BUSH AT THEIR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 2.

-- WE HAVE THEREFORE INVTTED JORIS VOS AND A DUTCH DEFENSE EXPERT TO JOIN THE U.S. AND OTHER BASING COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, TO DISCUSS THE PUBLIC HANDLING ISSUES AFFECTING THE BASING COUNTRIES, AND ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, AT OUR TRADITIONAL PRE-SCG BREAKFAST.
DAM BT

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 02 Jan 2018 Authority: EO 13526
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Reason: _____
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BRUSSELS FOR ASST. SECRETARY BURT

GENEVA FOR INF

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLAND

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TAGS: PARM, MUC, GC, IT, UR, NATO
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER COLOMBO'S SPEECH ON INFIRE FBWYBLED BOTH THEIR APPRECIATION OF THE NEW SOVIET AWARENESS OF THE DANGER IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND THE RESERVE THAT ITALY HAS WITH RESPECT TO ALL PROPOSALS NOT BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF BALANCE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. IF, HE OBSERVED, THE NEW SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS DEPARTED FROM THE "IMMOBILISM" OF THE LAST PHASE OF THE BREZHNEV ERA, IN THE WEST THERE IS NOW AN INTENSE DEBATE ON DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS. COLOMBO'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PYM, GENSCHER, AND CHEYSSON HAD REVEALED TOTAL AGREEMENT ON THE ABSOLUTE NEED FOR A SOVIET CLARIFICATION OF THE MEANING OF THE "GENERAL OVERTURES" MADE BY MOSCOW WITH RESPECT TO INF. THIS CLARIFICATION WAS NEEDED IF THE MOSCOW PROPOSALS WERE TO DEPART FROM A VAGUENESS WHICH RISKED LIMITING THEM TO A DECLARATORY AND PROPAGANDA SPHERE. IN THIS CONNECTION, COLOMBO MENTIONED THE FUTURE VISIT TO ROME OF FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO AND THE FORTHCOMING ITALO/SOVIET DISCUSSIONS ON THE THEME OF DISARMAMENT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN MOSCOW ON MARCH 1.

6. UNLESS THE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS HAVE POSITIVE RESULTS IN THE CONTEMPLATED "ZERO OPTION" THE INSTALLATION OF WEAPONS IN SOME NATO COUNTRIES WILL START AT THE END OF 1983 AND IN CONFORMITY NOT ONLY WITH THE NATO DOUBLE DECISION OF DECEMBER 1979, BUT THE RESOLUTION OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT OF DECEMBER 8 AND DECEMBER 10, 1979. COLOMBO DENIED THAT ITALY HAD SHOWN ANY PARTICULAR HASTE IN THE DECISION MADE JUST AS HE DENIED THAT THE FRG GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED THEIR DECISION ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE MISSILES. HE ADDED THAT IN THE FRG, AS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IN ITALY, PRELIMINARY WORK IS TAKING PLACE ON THE CHOSEN SITES.

7. COLOMBO EXPLAINED THAT THE UNILATERAL SOVIET DECISION TO OBTAIN MILITARY SUPREMACY IN EUROPE HAD LED TO THIS RESULT. THE SS-20S HAD PROFOUNDLY ALTERED THE BALANCE OF NUCLEAR FORCES. ITALY HAD EXAMINED CAREFULLY THE ANDROPOV PROPOSALS OF DECEMBER 21 AS WELL AS THE VARSAN PACT PROPOSALS FOR RENUNCIATION OF THE USE OF FORCE. WITH RESPECT TO THE VARSAN PACT PROPOSAL COLOMBO NOTED THAT NATO HAD RENOUNCED FIRST USE AGAIN IN JUNE 1982. HE COULD NOT IGNORE THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL CAME WHILE THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF

ACTION (I,M)
INFO CJCS(4) OJS:(*) J3(5) MIDS(*) J3:IMCC(*)
J5(2) PMD-1(1) SECDEF:(*) SECDEF(0) USDP(15)
ASD:ARAL(2) DD(1) DI-5(1) NMIC(*) SPS(1) AT-2(1)
DIO(1) VP-A: FRD(1) DE(1) DB-1B(1) JS-1D(1) DB-16(1)
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AFGHANISTAN CONTINUED AND WHILE DRAMATIC EVENTS IN POLAND VIOLATED THE NON-INTERFERENCE PRINCIPLE IN THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. THE MOSCOW TERMS HE THOUGHT WOULD CONSTITUTE AN END RATHER THAN A POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR EUROPEAN SOLUTIONS.

8. WITH RESPECT TO THE ANDROPOV INF PROPOSALS, COLOMBO FOUND POSITIVE THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NOT THREATENED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS, THAT THEY HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE U.S. AND THAT THE SOVIETS WERE DISPOSED TO RADICAL REDUCTIONS TO NUCLEAR ARMS IN START. COLOMBO COMMENTED THAT IF THE MAIN LINE OF THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH HAS BEEN THAT OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE, CAN COME TO BE SHARED BY THE SOVIET SIDE, THEN IT WOULD SEEM DOUBTLESS THAT CONCRETE RESULTS COULD BE REACHED, IF ONLY GRADUALLY.

9. TURNING TO THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE SOVIET PROPOSALS, COLOMBO EXCLUDED FRENCH AND BRITISH MISSILE SYSTEMS FROM THE INF BALANCES BUT NOTED THAT THEY MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN START REDUCTIONS. THE FACT SHOULD NOT BE OBSCURED, HE ADDED, THAT IF THE ANDROPOV IDEA WERE ACCEPTED, ITALIAN TERRITORY WOULD BE DIRECTLY EXPOSED TO SOVIET SS-20S WITHOUT EFFECTIVE PROTECTION. THERE WOULD RESULT THE CODIFICATION OF THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL SUBORDINATION OF EUROPE TO THE SOVIET UNION. THE ALLED REACTION TO THE SOVIET PROPOSAL, ESPECIALLY THAT OF THE FRENCH BT

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COLOMBO'S SPEECH SEEMED TO CONTAIN EVERY ELEMENT OF THE U.S. POSITION ON INF. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER IF COLOMBO MADE MEANINGFUL DEPARTURES FROM THIS TEXT OR IF SIGNIFICANT POINTS WERE MADE IN THE ENSUING DEBATE. BY SEPTEL THE EMBASSY WILL BE REPORTING THE REHEARD STRONG POSITION ON INF TAKEN BY THE ITALIAN SOCIALISTS AFTER A FEW AMBIGUOUS SOCIALIST PRESS STORIES HAD INSPIRED A MEASURE OF DOUBT. RABB BT

SECTION 03 OF 03 ROME 02738

BRUSSELS FOR ASST. SECRETARY BURT

GENEVA FOR INF

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLADS

TAGS: PARM, MAJ, GC, IT, UR, NATO
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER COLOMBO'S SPEECH ON INF GOVERNMENT, HAS COMFORTED ITALY IN THIS RESPECT.

10. AMONG THE POINTS REQUIRING CLARIFICATION COLOMBO MENTIONED: A) WHETHER THE SOVIET AGREEMENT TO DESTROY SOME INF MISSILES REFERRED TO SS-20S AS WELL AS SS-4S AND SS-5S; B) WHERE THE REDUCED SYSTEMS WOULD BE LOCATED; C) WHETHER THE USSR WOULD COUNT WARHEADS AS WELL AS MISSILES AS A MEANS OF MEASUREMENT; AND D) WHETHER THE USSR IS DISPOSED TO ACCEPT ADEQUATE INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION SYSTEMS AS WELL AS NATIONAL MEAS.

11. AFTER COMMENTING THAT SS-20S REACH ITALY IN ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS PERSHING IIS COULD REACH THE USSR BUT HAVE A LONGER RANGE, COLOMBO SAID THE DIFFERENCE LAY NOT IN TECHNOLOGY BUT IN THE FACT THAT "THE EUROPEANS, WE ITALIANS, ARE EXPOSED NOW TO THE VERY GRAVE DANGER WHICH THE USSR WISHES TO AVOID IN THE FUTURE." THIS IS WHY THE ZERO OPTION REMAINS THE FUNDAMENTAL GOAL OF THE ALLIANCE. ITALY NOTES WITH REGRET THAT THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO MAKE THE RENUNCIATION OF THE ZERO OPTION THE PRE-CONDITION FOR CONCRETE RESULTS IN THE DISCUSSIONS. ITALY SHARES THE READINESS EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN TO EXPLORE ALL POSSIBLE MARGINS OF SOVIET NEGOTIATING FLEXIBILITY. SUCH ACTIVE EXPLORATION COULD OPEN THE WAY TO AN EVENTUAL INTERMEDIATE SOLUTION OR COMPOSITION THAT THE CARDINAL PRINCIPLE -- EQUALITY AND BALANCE -- IS RESPECTED.

12. COLOMBO EXPRESSED THE ITALIAN INTENTION OF DISCUSSING A BALANCED AGREEMENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT BUSH DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ITALY; THAT VISIT WILL CONSTITUTE A MOST USEFUL OCCASION. TRACING THE COURSE OF THE SOVIET TRANSITION FROM REFUSING DISCUSSION TO MAKING PROPOSALS, COLOMBO OBSERVED INTER ALIA THAT THE FIRST ELEMENT IN THE DOUBLE DECISION--INF MODERNIZATION--CANNOT BE PRACTICALLY REALIZED IN PRACTICE ACCORDING TO THE PREVIOUS SCHEDULE IF THE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS HAVE NOT BY THEN PRODUCED POSITIVE RESULTS. THE POSITION OF THOSE WHO FEEL THAT THE WORK OF PREPARING A COMISO BASE SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IS ILLOGICAL.

13. (LQ) COMMENT:

ACTION (I, M)
INFO CJCS(4) OJS:(*) J3(5) HTDS(*) J3:NMCC(*)
J6(2) PMJ-1(1) SECDEF:(*) SECDEF(9) USDP(15)
ASD:MPAL(2) DD(1) DI-5(1) A-IC(*) SWS(1) AT-8(1)
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