

~~SECRET~~

#31

BACKGROUND PAPER

[11/83]

ON

DEPLOYMENT OF PII TO GERMANY

Chancellor Kohl has recently decided that the Bundestag debate on the status of the Geneva INF negotiations will begin on 21 November, and he has requested that no PII missile components or warheads enter the FRG prior to that date. We have reluctantly acceded to his request because (a) we really had no choice, and (b) we can still meet our NATO commitment to deploy in December albeit on a very tightly compressed schedule. There will, however, be no time available to compensate for unpredictable contingencies.

The shift to 21 November is almost certainly based on tactical domestic political calculations which are designed to minimize the danger to Genscher's position in the FDP, place the ever more fractured SPD in the worst possible light, and gain the greatest possible public support for Kohl and his Government partners. Kohl continues to maintain, both in public and in private, that the PII will be deployed in the FRG absent a Geneva agreement obviating the need.

One point which is not yet clear concerns how long the Bundestag debate will last and thus when we will be able to begin delivery of missile components and warheads to the FRG. It is not possible to predict at this time the length of the debate but our Embassy's best guess is that it will last one or two days with a possibility of it carrying over to a third day. We will have to plan our delivery schedules accordingly and will be working on this with the Germans over the next few weeks. Unless the Germans strongly object, we intend to move the renovated Erector-Launchers (EL's) from Frankfurt to the deployment site at Mutlangen according to the previous schedule, i.e., beginning on 17 November.

(For additional details on the overall status of the PII program, see the attached report prepared by Under Secretary of the Army Ambrose.)

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

Date: 19 SEP 2013 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 US.C. 8552
Declassify: Deny in Full: _____

Declassify in Part: _____

Reason: _____

MDR: 18 -M- 1055

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL

Authority: EO 13526

Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS

Date: _____

SEP 14 2018

R1

~~SECRET~~

330-85-0022, Ex 8, Germany (Oct-Dec)

18-M-1055