



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
MESSAGE CENTER

02284

U.S. NIKE-HERCULES BATTERIES TO THE FRG AND STATION-  
ING PROBLEMS FOR BRIGADE 76.

2. WHILE LEBER EXPECTS TO DISCUSS STANDARDIZATION WITH  
SECDEF, THE MINISTER DOES NOT INTEND TO SEND THE  
SECRETARY HIS VIEWS PRIOR TO THEIR MEETING. ACCORDING  
TO LEBER'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT DR. STEUTZLE (PROTECT),  
THE ISSUE IS SO "COMPLICATED" AND POSES "SO MANY  
PROBLEMS" THAT MINISTER LEBER PREFERS TO DISCUSS THE  
SUBJECT RATHER THAN TO PUT ANYTHING DOWN IN WRITING.  
EMBASSY COMMENT: AS SUGGESTED IN REFTEL, WE ASSUME THIS  
MEANS THAT THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT REMAINS DIVIDED ON  
THIS SUBJECT AND THAT THE MINISTER IS NOT CONFIDENT THAT  
HE CAN STATE A FORMAL FRG POSITION BEFORE HIS MEETING  
WITH THE SECRETARY. HOWEVER, WE ASSUME THAT HE WILL BE  
ABLE TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL CONVICTIONS, AND THAT THESE  
CONVICTIONS SHOULD CARRY CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT HERE OVER  
TIME EVEN IF THEY CAN NOT PREVAIL IN THE NEXT TEN DAYS.  
THUS, WE BELIEVE LEBER SHOULD STILL BE REGARDED AS AN  
AUTHORITATIVE SPOKESMAN ON THIS SUBJECT. END COMMENT

3. ACTION REQUESTED: FMOD REMAINS MOST ANXIOUS TO  
LEARN WHAT SUBJECTS SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WISHES TO  
RAISE WITH MINISTER LEBER. PLEASE ADVISE.  
HILLENBRAND

BT  
#5220  
ANNOTES  
JDG DGR 640

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