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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 1-72

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BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L (BONN) 12446

SUBJECT: FRG POSITION ON TERRORISM AT INTERPOL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 165698

1. LEGATT WAS IN TOUCH WITH WERNER HEINL, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BUNDESKRIMINALAMT AND FRG DELEGATION LEADER TO THE UPCOMING INTERPOL GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ON SEPTEMBER 12 TO MAKE APPROACH CONTAINED IN REFTEL. MINISTER CASH WAS ALSO IN TOUCH WITH INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER'S ASSISTANT ON MESSAGE; MR. CASH ALSO SENT A LETTER THIS EVENING TO GENSCHER CONTAINING POINTS IN REFTEL AND ASKING FOR EARLY DISCUSSION OF GENSCHER'S VIEWS ON PROPOSALS. (GENSCHER WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR PERSONAL MEETING WITH MINISTER CASH BECAUSE OF FULL SCHEDULE OF URGENT MEETINGS WITH POLICE AND SECURITY OFFICIALS.) WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM GENSCHER VERY SOON.

2. HEINL SAID THAT HE HAD CONSIDERED BRIEFLY RAISING THE TERRORIST ISSUE AT THE INTERPOL MEETING BUT HAD QUICKLY REJECTED IT SINCE HE THOUGHT IT WOULD HAVE NO CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN THE INTERPOL FORUM. HE SAID THAT THE FRG DELEGATION HAD THEREFORE NO PLANS TO RAISE THE ISSUE AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

3. HEINL JUSTIFIED THIS POSITION BY ARGUING THAT:
(A) INTERPOL'S BY-LAWS KEPT THE ORGANIZATION FROM

DEALING WITH POLITICAL CRIMES; (B) IT WOULD BE TOO

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

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LATE TO INCLUDE THE TOPIC ON THE MEETING'S AGENDA NOW, SO IT WOULD HAVE TO BE PROPOSED AT THE MEETING AS AN ADDITIONAL ITEM. HEINL FELT THAT THE COMBINATION OF ARAB, ASIAN, LATIN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN DELEGATIONS WOULD COMBINE TO DEFEAT ITS INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA; (C) A MAJOR DISPUTE OVER THE ITEM IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MIGHT LEAD TO A SPPLIT IN THE INTERPOL ORGANIZATION WITH HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE COOPERATIVE WORK THAT GOES ON IN OTHER FIELDS; AND (D) THE BEST METHOD TO DEAL WITH THE TERRORISTS WAS THROUGH COOPERATION BETWEEN THOSE POLICE AND SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS OF THE COUNTRIES WILLING AND ABLE TO COOPERATE. HEINL CONCLUDED BY STRESSING THAT HE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION, OF COURSE, IF THE US DELEGATION WISHED TO PRESENT THE PROPOSALS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OUTLINED IN REFTEL.

4. WHEN INFORMED THAT MINISTER CASH WOULD BE PRESENTING TO GENSCHER THE US PROPOSALS FOR FRG ACTION AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HEINL CALLED GENSCHER'S OFFICE AND MADE THE ARGUMENTS IN PARA 3 ABOVE TO GENSCHER'S ASSISTANT.

5. COMMENT. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT GENSCHER, AS A PRACTICAL POLITICIAN WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL PROBLEM FACING HIM AT THE OUTSET OF A NATIONAL ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, MAY TAKE A MORE POSITIVE VIEW OF OUR APPROACH. WE WILL INFORM DEPT IMMEDIATELY HIS VIEWS ARE PASSED TO US.

GDHILLENBRAND

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