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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY

TDCS

DATE OF INFO.

DISTR.

SUBJECT

[Redacted Subject Box]

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

REF

IN 73701

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL

FIELD REPORT NO.

1. GENERAL GEHLEN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, WAS CALLED TO BONN UNEXPECTEDLY ON THE EVENING OF 3 FEBRUARY FOR CONFERENCES ON 4 FEBRUARY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SCHROEDER AND OTHER SENIOR FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS. THE TOPIC OF DISCUSSIONS IS GERMAN RELATIONS WITH EGYPT. GEHLEN WILL COUNSEL THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO AVOID ANY PRECIPITOUS ACTION IN THE PRESENT CONFLICT OVER ULBRICHT'S VISIT TO CAIRO.

2. GEHLEN TOOK WITH HIM A REPORT FROM A BND SOURCE IN EGYPT WHO IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY RELIABLE. THE REPORT STATES THAT NASSER DOES NOT INTEND TO RECOGNIZE EAST GERMANY AND WILL HANDLE ULBRICHT

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SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2E
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APPROXIMATELY AS HE DID GROTEWOHL IN 1959. NASSER PREVIOUSLY TOLD GERMAN AMBASSADOR FLEDERER ABOUT THE SAME THING, AND THE BND BELIEVES THAT THEIR REPORT CONFIRMS THAT NASSER WILL ACT AS HE STATED. GEHLEN WILL CITE THE BND REPORT TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE AS A REASON FOR FOLLOWING A MODERATE LINE WITH THE EGYPTIANS.

3. EVEN PRIOR TO GEHLEN'S TRIP THE FOREIGN OFFICE WAS DISINCLINED TO TAKE ANY SPEEDY ACTION ON THE EGYPTIAN PROBLEM AND IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT ANY IMPORTANT DECISIONS WILL BE MADE UNTIL AFTER ULBRICHT'S VISIT TAKES PLACE.

4. RECENTLY THE BND CONDUCTED A STUDY ON THE PROBABLE REACTION OF OTHER ARAB STATES IF GERMAN-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS WERE BROKEN. THE STUDY CONCLUDED THAT VERY FEW OF THE ARAB STATES WOULD FOLLOW THE EGYPTIAN LINE AND BREAK WITH GERMANY. THIS STUDY HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND MAY BE DISCUSSED DURING GEHLEN'S TRIP TO BONN.

5. FIELD DISSEM: NONE (ALSO SENT BONN, CAIR, GMMY, FRAN, BRLN).

END OF MESSAGE

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