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W/KUEHN 2 February 1966

1. My wife and I attended a dinner at the KUEHN's in their home in Planegg. During the evening KUEHN informed my wife that he had lunched on 1 February with the West German Ambassador to Israel (PAULS) at a restaurant in Munich. KUEHN stated that he and PAULS had become close friends during the period of KUEHN's duty in Washington, when PAULS and KUEHN were both working in the German Embassy. KUEHN stated that PAULS at the time held the rank of Consul. KUEHN stated that much of the talk between PAULS and himself was devoted to reminiscences about the good old days in Washington. PAULS conceded that, while his job as Ambassador to Israel offers a challenge, he has a minimum of social life and has little expectancy that many of the Israelis will exhibit any spontaneous warmth to him during his tour. KUEHN spoke to DESSAU of a conversation with DESSAU during the latter's recent visit to Munich over Christmas 1965. According to KUEHN, DESSAU enjoys every minute of his job in Washington and stated that he has no desire ever to come back to CATIDE Headquarters in a duty capacity, hoping that he can carry on in Washington until retirement. KUEHN stated that he himself has had a tough time making the adjustment to his present job in CATIDE after his Washington tour, adding that he has had a difficult time picking up the complicated threads of his present job in addition to reorganizing his personal life, now home, etc. He added that he messes not being his own boss and finds it a come-down to realize that he must say "Yea Sir" to somebody immediately above him. He stated, however, that he respects his superior (he did not mention DEGENHARD by name), and added that he has an excellent, hard-working staff which provides him with good support. KUEHN then opened up the subject of prospective assignment to Germany. Using what he referred to as newspaper reports of difficulties with the new KUBARK management as a point of departure for a few comments about UTILITY, KUEHN stated that UTILITY has a number of weak points. He expressed the hope that a new CATIDE President might be able to pump into the organization fresh new ideas, vitality, and provide much needed direction. KUEHN stated that one must, on the other hand, bear in mind that any successor to UTILITY, whoever he may be, could well be a political appointee who might make things difficult either through a comparative lack of understanding of the business or serious errors of omission or commission which could make CATIDE's wish that UTILITY were back in the field. As KUEHN put it, UTILITY could then look good by comparison. KUEHN stated that he had made a trip toward the end of his tour in Washington during the course of which he touched base in a number of different countries in South America. When I asked if this trip had been a vacation on which he was accompanied by his wife, KUEHN stated that the trip was strictly a Dienstreise; also, that he stopped in, among other countries, Bolivia, Peru and Mexico.

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