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DATE OF INFORMATION 28 August 1959				DATE OF REPORT 4 September 1959	
FROM Naval Attache, Bonn		SOURCE Bonn 7-55		EVALUATION B-2	
SUBJECT GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC		SUBJECT Military-Political Conference			

BRIEF (FOR REPORTS OF MORE THAN ONE PAGE, ENTER CAREFUL SUMMARY)

This report amplifies reference (1) and gives a complete summary of the conference held on 27 August between Federal Defense Minister Strauss and U. S. Secretaries Gates and Irwin.

Ref: (a) NA Bonn msg, 021004Z September 1959

1. During the conference Defense Minister Strauss dwelt mainly on the political aspects of President Eisenhower's visit and how the United States stands relative to various proposals being made, prior to, during, and after the Geneva Conference. During these discussions he asked one principal question, and that was -- what in the minds of the U. S. representatives did limited inspections mean? This question was answered by Secretary Irwin, who said that these were only token inspections, and in our opinion was just something to "keep the door open".
2. The next point taken up by Defense Minister Strauss was the concern that the Germans had that the United States might, as a concession to the Russians, either delay or cancel the two atomic agreements; that is, the trainin and stockpile agreements. Both Secretary Gates and Irwin stated that they did not believe that these two agreements would either be delayed or cancelled.
3. There was general agreement among the conferees on all the political discussions, and as Secretary Gates put it, "Minister Strauss, I believe we see eye to eye."

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4. Defense Minister Strauss asked if some U.S. F-104 units could be stationed in Europe on a rotational basis. He believed that this would be advantageous to the Germans, and it would be of great assistance in training the German Air Force.
5. Defense Minister Strauss stated that they wanted some Tartar installations on their destroyers. He further stated that they no longer had a WEU problem in reference to the installations inasmuch as all restrictions on all anti-aircraft weapons have been lifted by the WEU. He further stated that a Tartar Commission was being sent to the United States in the next few weeks to look into the production problems and determine whether the Tartar can be produced in Western Germany. They would like to equip 8 destroyers; 4 during 1960-1961, and 4 during 1961-1962.
6. Minister Strauss then stated that his next remark was no reflection on the MAAG inasmuch as the MAAG had done everything they possibly could, but he said that the delivery of Air Force spare parts for F-84F aircraft was entirely unsatisfactory, and that 50% of the German aircraft were deadlined. He requested assistance from the Department of Defense to help in this matter. Secretary Irwin asked that the undersigned look into this and give him an immediate report.
7. General Heusinger, one of the conferees, stated that they were also having difficulty in getting sufficient spare parts for the M-47 Tank. Again, Secretary Irwin asked for a report on this.
8. Minister Strauss asked for U. S. support in having the WEU lift restriction on the size of destroyers.
9. General Heusinger was given a few minutes, and he stated that in his mind, two of the principal problems facing the Bundeswehr were; first, defense against low flying aircraft; and second, anti-tank defense. Another problem was that of air reconnaissance for the Army, and the Germans would like to be included in the U. S. development of the Drone Aircraft for this purpose. (The undersigned informed the conferees that a demonstration had been arranged to show General Reinhardt, and a group of German Officers, what the United States is now organizing here in Germany along these lines. The demonstration will be at Grafenwoehr on 4 September 1959.)
10. The next item mentioned by Minister Strauss was the Mace B Program. He asked Secretary Gates if the U. S. had cancelled this program. Secretary Gates replied that Congress had "knocked out" funds for the program, and further stated that he did not know exactly where the program now stood, but that he would find out and let Minister Strauss know.

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None.

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