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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2680
INFO RUEHDD/NATO COLLECTIVE
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 8656
RUCMBA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RHEAAB/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE
RUDDPRA/USNMR SHAPE BE
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 27571

GENEVA FOR US INF DEL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, MPOL, GE
SUBJ: SPD MOVES FURTHER FROM GOVERNMENT ON INF

REF: BONN 25562

1. (U) ACCORDING TO A PRESS RELEASE DATED DECEMBER 7, 1982,

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State Dept. review completed

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THE SPD PRESIDJUM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF WILLY BRANDT HAS ENDORSED THE SUGGESTION OF FORMER ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE THAT THE U.S. SEEK ONLY A PARTIAL REDUCTION OF SOVIET SS-20 MISSILES IN THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS ON INF. THE SPD REPORTS THAT WARNKE'S PROPOSAL OF SEPTEMBER 16, 1982 CALLS FOR SOVIET DESTRUCTION OF THE 280 REMAINING SS-4 AND SS-6 MISSILES, ALONG WITH 100 SS-20 MISSILES IN EXCHANGE FOR CANCELLATION OF PERSHING II AND GLCM DEPLOYMENTS. SUCH ACTION "WOULD RESTORE THE BALANCE BETWEEN SOVIET AND WESTERN INF MISSILES."

2. (U) ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, THIS PROPOSAL WOULD FACILITATE THE TRANSFER OF INF THEMES INTO THE START NEGOTIATIONS WHERE IT WOULD BE EASIER TO TAKE FRENCH AND BRITISH CAPABILITIES INTO CONSIDERATION. TO PROMOTE THIS RESULT, AN INTERIM AGREEMENT FREEZING THE NUMBER OF U.S. F-111 AND SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBERS COULD BE REACHED AS ONE COMPONENT OF AN OVERALL START AGREEMENT.

3. (C) COMMENT: THE SPD IS NOW SPONSORING AN INF ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL INCONSISTENT WITH THE ZERO-ZERO SOLUTION BACKED BY NATO, AND BY BOTH CURRENT AND PAST GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRG. IN DOING SO, THE PARTY TAKES ONE MORE STEP AWAY FROM THE 1979 DUAL-TRACK DECISION, PUTTING MORE POLITICAL DISTANCE BETWEEN ITSELF AND THE CDU-CSU/FDP COALITION ON THE INF ISSUE.

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END OF MESSAGE

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