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TO IMMEDIATE FCO
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INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, BONN, UKDEL NATO, ROME, BRUSSELS,
THE HAGUE, MADRID AND MOD (DS 17)

MT

PARIS TELNO. 1198: SHULTZ'S VISIT TO PARIS.

1. ANDREANI'S BRIEFING TODAY COVERED TWO SUPPLEMENTARY POINTS:

(A) STRATEGIC AFFAIRS. SHULTZ HAD ASKED IF THE REMARKS ON INF ASCRIBED TO PRESIDENT MITTERRAND IN THE KRAFT ARTICLE MEANT THE FRENCH POSITION HAD CHANGED. MITTERRAND REASSURED HIM THAT IT HAD NOT. FRANCE, NOT BEING A PARTY TO THE US/USSR NEGOTIATIONS, HAD NEVER TAKEN A PRECISE POSITION ON THE SOLUTIONS SOUGHT THERE BUT HAD SAID THAT THERE SHOULD BE A REDUCTION TO THE 'LOWEST LEVEL POSSIBLE'. IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH KRAFT HE HAD ONLY MADE THE COMMON SENSE OBSERVATION THAT IN A NEGOTIATION THE SOLUTION WAS USUALLY FOUND SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE POSITIONS ADOPTED BY THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE OUTSET: IN THIS CASE THE FRENCH CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE AS CLOSE TO THE ZERO OPTION AS POSSIBLE. SHULTZ HAD APPEARED SATISFIED WITH THIS EXPLANATION.

(B) TIMETABLE FOR DISCUSSION OF EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. SHULTZ HAD SUGGESTED THAT THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE VARIOUS BODIES SHOULD REACH CONCLUSIONS BEFORE MAY/JUNE, WHEN THE OECD AND NATO MINISTERIAL MEETINGS AND THE WILLIAMSBURG SUMMIT WERE DUE TO TAKE PLACE. MITTERRAND HAD NOT OBJECTED TO THIS SUGGESTION. ASKED SPECIFICALLY WHETHER THIS MEANT THAT MITTERRAND HAD ACCEPTED THE DATE OF 28-30 MAY FOR THE WILLIAMSBURG SUMMIT, ANDREANI SAID THAT MITTERRAND HAD TAKEN NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THIS WAS THE DATE THAT THE AMERICANS HAD FIXED FOR THE MEETING. ANDREANI IMPLIED, BUT WOULD NOT EXPLICITLY SAY, THAT THIS WAS THE SAME THING AS ACCEPTANCE.

FRETWELL

EAST/WEST ECONOMIC ISSUES - SIBERIAN PIPELINE

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