

RELEASED IN PART 1.4(B),1.4(D)

PTQ5409

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ACTION EUR-01

INFO LOG-00 AID-00 CIAE-00 SMEC-00 INL-01 OASY-00 DODE-00
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FRG COLLECTIVE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 04516

E.O. 12958: DECL: 3/22/05
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, IR, GM
SUBJECT: IRAN - FRG FEELING FOREIGN PRESSURE ON ITS IRAN
POLICY

REF: A) BONN 3878 B) BONN 4020

1. CLASSIFIED BY J.D. BINDENAGEL, DCM. REASON: 1.5(D).

SUMMARY AND COMMENT
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Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason:
1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 03/25/2021

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2. (C) THE ARREST OF IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF FALLAHIAN,
COUPLED WITH PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. AND OTHERS, APPEARS TO BE
HAVING SOME EFFECT ON THE FRG, PARTICULARLY ON GERMAN FOREIGN
MINISTER KINKEL, ACCORDING TO FOREIGN OFFICE INTERLOCUTORS.
GERMAN POLICY MAKERS CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF

THE UPCOMING (APRIL 2-3) EU TROIKA MEETING WITH IRAN AND SPEAK OF A "REEVALUATION OF THE CRITICAL DIALOGUE." IRANIAN RHETORIC PROTESTING THE ISSUANCE OF AN ARREST WARRANT AGAINST IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF FALLAHIAN (REF B) CONTINUES TO ESCALATE, AND MID-LEVEL FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS REPORT CONCERN OVER WORSENING GERMAN-IRANIAN RELATIONS. ULTIMATELY, CHANCELLOR KOHL WILL HAVE TO INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL GERMAN POLICY DEBATE IF FRG IRAN POLICY IS TO CHANGE. ASIDE FROM SOME VOICES IN THE MEDIA, THERE ARE STILL VERY FEW GERMANS IN POSITIONS OF POWER AND ONLY THE SMALL OPPOSITION GREEN PARTY ARGUING THAT THE FRG SHOULD CHANGE ITS IRAN POLICY. END SUMMARY AND COMMENT.

FM KINKEL: COMING AROUND?

3. (C) FOREIGN MINISTER KINKEL IS UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE ON IRAN. THE ARREST WARRANT ISSUED AGAINST IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF FALLAHIAN, COUPLED WITH PRESSURE FROM THE U.S. AND OTHERS, APPEARS TO BE HAVING SOME EFFECT ON THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER.



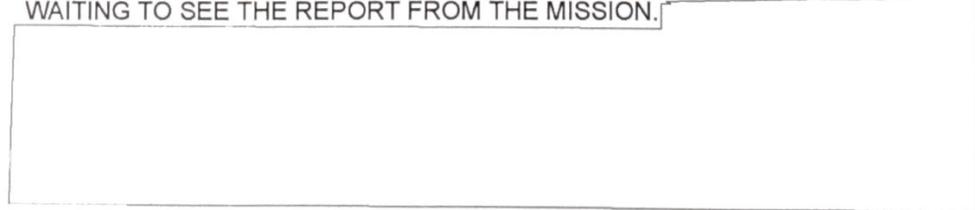
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

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4. (C) GERMAN POLICY MAKERS CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE UPCOMING (APRIL 2-3) EU TROIKA MEETING WITH IRAN AND SPEAK OF A "REEVALUATION" OF THE CRITICAL DIALOGUE. IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS MARCH 20, FRG CHANCELLOR KOHL SAID HE IS WAITING TO SEE THE REPORT FROM THE MISSION.



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1.4(D)

RED LINE VS. RED LINE

5. (U) MEANWHILE, THE IRANIAN REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GERMAN ARREST WARRANT AGAINST IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF FALLAHIAN HAS BEEN STRIDENT. IRANIAN AMBASSADOR MUSAVIAN DELIVERED A PROTEST NOTE TO THE GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE MARCH 18 IN WHICH THE IRANIANS STATED THE "UNJUSTIFIED" ARREST ORDER

CONTRADICTS ALL LEGAL AND INTERNATIONAL NORMS. "EVEN THE U.S. IN THE COURSE OF 17 YEARS OF ACTING AS IRAN'S ENEMY" HAD NOT EMBARKED ON SUCH A STEP. MUSAVIAN TOLD THE PRESS IRAN WOULD PRESS CHARGES AGAINST GERMAN CHIEF PROSECUTOR NEHM. REFERRING TO KINKEL'S COMMENTS ABOUT A "RED LINE" THAT IRAN SHOULD NOT CROSS (REF A), MUSAVIAN SAID "WE'RE THE ONES THAT NEED TO BE TALKING ABOUT A RED LINE." MUSAVIAN ACCUSED THE CIA AND ISRAELI MOSSAD OF TRYING TO INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME OF THE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BONN 04516

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MYKONOS TRIAL IN BERLIN.

DAMAGE CONTROL?

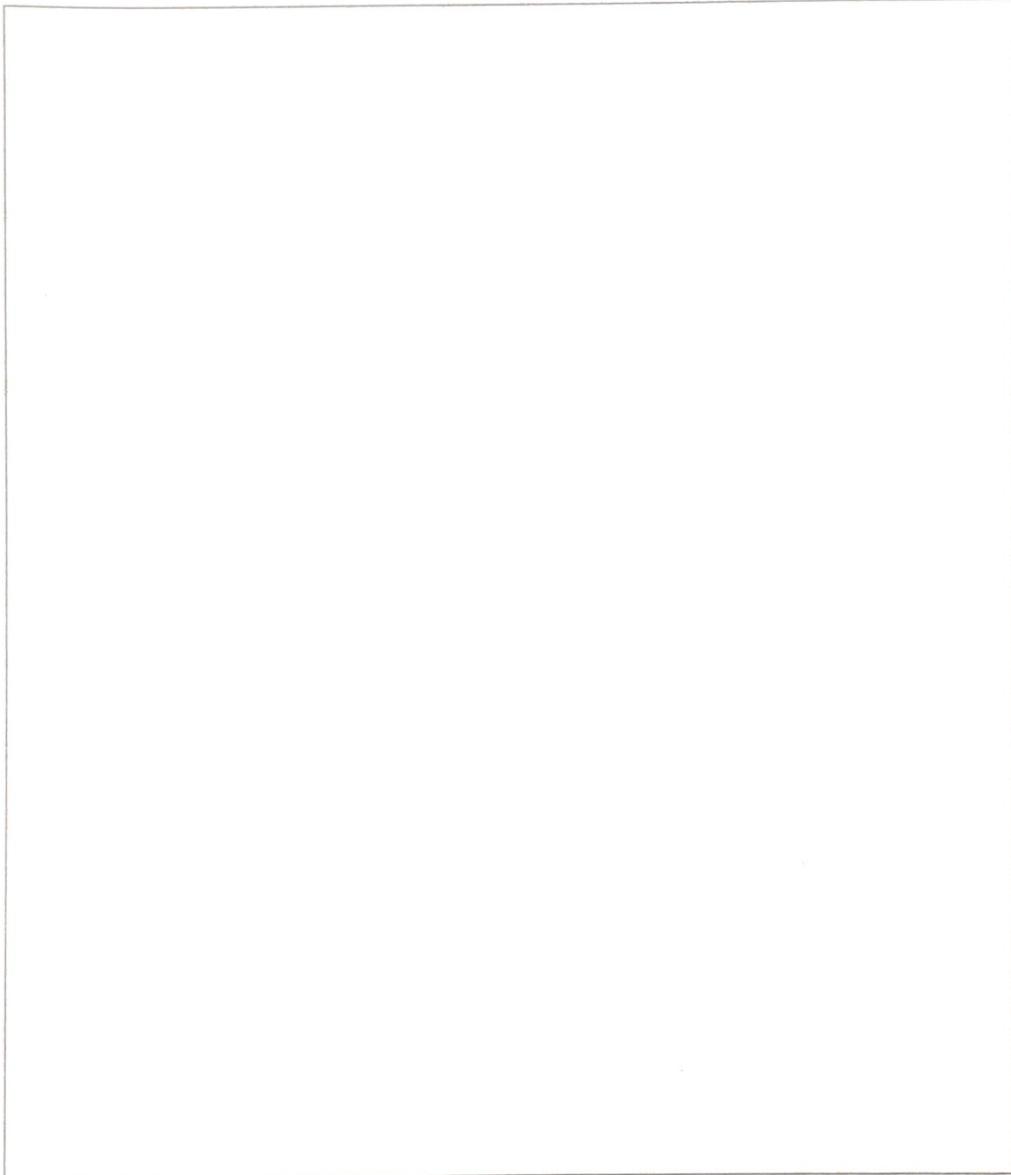
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6. (C) FOREIGN OFFICE INTERLOCUTORS ARE CONCERNED WITH
IRANIAN RHETORIC AND OVER THE WORSENING OF GERMAN-IRANIAN
RELATIONS. [REDACTED]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)

1.4(B)
1.4(D)



COMMENT

8. (C) RECENT EVENTS IN ISRAEL TOGETHER WITH TEHRAN'S REACTION TO THEM, U.S. INTERVENTIONS, AND THE ARREST WARRANT AGAINST FALLAHIAN ARE HAVING AT LEAST SOME EFFECT ON GERMAN THINKING ON IRAN. GERMAN INTERLOCUTORS ARE STRESSING THE "SERIOUSNESS" OF THE DELIBERATIONS BOTH WITHIN THE EU AND INSIDE GERMANY. RIGHT NOW, WE HAVE THE FEELING FROM THOSE IN THE CHANCELLERY AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE THAT THE FRG -- IN SPITE OF ESCALATING IRANIAN RHETORIC CAUSED BY THE ARREST WARRANT AGAINST IRAN'S CHIEF SPY -- WOULD PREFER TO PUT ITS HEAD DOWN AND WAIT OUT THE LATEST STORM ON IRAN. EVENTS ARE MAKING THIS DIFFICULT, HOWEVER, AND THE PRESS IS ALREADY BEGINNING TO

SPECULATE ABOUT A "TURNING POINT" ("WENDE") IN BONN'S RELATIONS WITH TEHRAN.

9. (C) ULTIMATELY, THE CHANCELLOR WOULD HAVE TO INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL GERMAN POLICY DEBATE IF GERMANY IRAN POLICY WERE TO BE CHANGED, BUT FOR NOW KOHL IS NOT TALKING. QUESTIONED MARCH 20 ON IRAN, THE CHANCELLOR SAID THE FRG DOES NOT NEED ANOTHER PUBLIC DEBATE ON ITS POLICY. SOME OBSERVERS POINT OUT KOHL HAS FEW DOMESTIC REASONS TO TALK: ASIDE FROM NOISES IN THE PRESS AND EFFORTS BY THE SMALL GREEN PARTY TO EMBARRASS THE GOVERNMENT, THERE ARE STILL VERY FEW GERMANS IN POSITIONS OF

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POWER ARGUING THAT THE FRG SHOULD CHANGE ITS IRAN POLICY AND
MANY MORE WHO FAVOR CONTINUING TO PURSUE GERMANY'S COMMERCIAL
AND FINANCIAL INTERESTS WITH IRAN. ALL OF THE GOVERNMENT
COALITION PARTIES ARE SOLIDLY BEHIND THE CRITICAL DIALOGUE AND
EVEN THE SPD, MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY, BASICALLY AGREES WITH THE
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GOVERNMENT'S LINE.

REDMAN

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