

FOBO 012/09

pp BONN

GRS 400

VCONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 082345Z NOV 83

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3364 OF 8 NOVEMBER

INFO PRIORITY MODUK (DS17) ROME, BONN, UKDEL NATO, BUCHAREST
MOSCOW, PARIS

INFO SAVING THE HAGUE, BRUSSELS

BUCHAREST TELNO 248 AND BONN TELNOS 999 AND 1001: CEAUSESCU'S
LETTERS ON INF

1. AS TRANSLATED BY THE US EMBASSY IN BUCHAREST, THE KEY PASSAGE
IN CEAUSESCU'S MESSAGE TO REAGAN IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REACH AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR THE HALT
OF DEPLOYMENT OF NEW US MISSILES AND FOR THE WITHDRAWAL AND
DESTRUCTION - IN TOTALITY OR IN THE GREATEST PART - OF SOVIET
MISSILES, LEAVING OTHER ASPECTS TO BE SETTLED AT OTHER STAGES
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE GENERAL
RELATION OF FORCES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. THUS IT COULD BE
AGREED THAT FRENCH AND BRITISH MISSILES AND ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND
MEANS OF DELIVERY BE TAKEN INTO CALCULATION IN THE GENERAL RATIO
OF FORCES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AND BE MADE THE OBJECT OF
SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN WOULD ALSO
PARTICIPATE.

UNQUOTE

THE LETTER GOES ON TO SAY THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA MUST
CONTINUE AND (SOMEWHAT CONTRADICTING THE PASSAGE QUOTED ABOVE)
TO REHEARSE SOME ASPECTS OF ANDROPOV'S PRAVDA INTERVIEW OF 27
OCTOBER. THE ROMANIANS HAVE TOLD THE AMERICANS THAT A QUOTE
SIMILAR MESSAGE UNQUOTE HAS BEEN SENT TO ANDROPOV. THE ROMANIANS
DID NOT MENTION THE MESSAGE TO KOHL, ABOUT WHICH THE AMERICANS
HAVE LEARNED ONLY FROM THE GERMANS. THE MESSAGE TO REAGAN
DOES NOT PROPOSE A MEETING OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS
OR A US/SOVIET SUMMIT.

2. THE PRELIMINARY STATE DEPARTMENT VIEW IS THAT, IN SPITE OF
THE AMBIGUITIES IN THE LANGUAGE, CEAUSESCU'S LETTER GOES BEYOND
THE SOVIET POSITION IN SUGGESTING THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA
SHOULD NOT BE BROKEN OFF, AND THAT THE PROBLEM OF UK AND FRENCH
SYSTEMS CAN BE LEFT UNTIL A LATER STAGE. NO DOUBT DELIBERATELY,
HOWEVER, IT IS HIGHLY AMBUGUOUS ON THE DRAW-DOWN IN SOVIET INF.

3. BURT IS IN EUROPE WITH DAM. HE WILL NO DOUBT WANT TO DISCUSS
HANDLING OF THE ROMANIAN LETTERS IN THE SCG ON 10 NOVEMBER.

FCO PASS SAVING THE HAGUE, BRUSSELS

WRIGHT