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FM THE SITUATION ROOM

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

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TOHAK93

DELIVER TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY.

MAY 6, 1974

TO: HENRY A. KISSINGER  
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SONNENFELDT ASKED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE SENT TO YOU.

ALTHOUGH IT IS OBVIOUSLY TOO EARLY TO DRAW EXTENSIVE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE BONN SHAKE-UP, THE SOVIETS ARE BOUND TO BE DEEPLY DISTURBED BY IT. UNDER ALMOST ANY COMBINATION OF CHARACTERS IN A NEW CABINET, BAHR IS LIKELY TO BE OUT, WITH BRANDT AND HIM GONE, AND ESPECIALLY WITH SCHMIDT VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO MOVE UP, GERMAN EASTERN POLICY IS LIKELY TO TAKE A MORE CAUTIOUS TACK. IN TERMS OF THE MATERIALS I HAVE SENT YOU FOR YOUR MEETING IN CYPRUS, I THINK THESE DEVELOPMENTS REINFORCE THE POINT THAT WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO BRING THE ALLIES ALONG WITHOUT SOME EVIDENCE OF SOVIET FLEXIBILITY IN CSCE. THIS MAY NOT BE AN EASY PERSCRIPTION FOR BREZHNEV AT A TIME WHEN HE IS SEEING YET ANOTHER PILLAR OF HIS WESTERN POLICY CRACK. BUT WHILE I THINK WE NEED TO TREAT THE SOVIETS WITH GREATER SUBTLETY AND CIRCUMSPECTION THAN EVER IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE SHOULD ALSO KEEP IN MIND THAT THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCHMIDT (AND POSSIBLY ALSO HIS FRIEND GISCARD) MAY PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED BOOST TO A HEALTHIER ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP AND TO A EUROPEAN COHESIVENESS WITH MORE POSITIVE ELEMENTS FOR US THAN IN THE RECENT PAST. ON AN ISSUE LIKE CSCE, THEREFORE, SOME DEFERENCE TO GERMAN SENSITIVITIES AT THIS TIME MAY WELL PAY DIVIDENDS IN OUR FUTURE WESTERN RELATIONSHIP, EVEN IF IT WINS NO POINTS WITH THE RUSSIANS. BUT THEN BREZHNEV AND THE KGB OUGHT TO BE REALISTIC ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT A SPY IN THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE SOONER OR LATER HAS TO BE PAID FOR.

MORI/CDF  
C03344794

ON-FILE NSC  
RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY

\*\*\*\*\* \*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

SECFL

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PAGE 01

TDR:127/02:21Z

DTG:070158Z MAY 74

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WE ARE SENDING YOU THRU STATE CHANNELS AN ASSESSMENT OF THE  
GERMAN SITUATION AS IT APPEARS THIS EVENING.

341

PSN:033015

PAGE 02

OF 02

TDR:127/02:21Z

DTG:070158Z MAY 74

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