

RESTRICTED

FM BONN

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 689

OF 131456Z SEPTEMBER 91

INFO ROUTINE PARIS, MOSCOW, UKREP BRUSSELS, WASHINGTON

FRAME EXTERNAL

PARIS TELNO 913: EC ENLARGEMENT/BALTIC STATES

SUMMARY

1. GENSCHER SUPPORTS EC MEMBERSHIP FOR THE BALTIC STATES IN DUE COURSE.

DETAIL

2. ON HIS RETURN FROM A TOUR OF BALTIC STATE CAPITALS, GENSCHER GAVE A RADIO INTERVIEW ON 13 SEPTEMBER, IN WHICH HE SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE THREE BALTIC STATES SHOULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE EC SINCE THIS WOULD HELP BIND THEM TO EUROPE WHILE OFFERING THEM THE PERSPECTIVE OF FULL MEMBERSHIP. QUOTE THEY WOULD NOT FORGIVE US IF WE DID NOT OPEN THE DOOR TO THE EC. UNQUOTE ASKED HOW LONG THE PROCESS WOULD TAKE, GENSCHER SAID THAT THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS COULD BE CONCLUDED IN A FEW MONTHS. FULL MEMBERSHIP COULD TAKE PLACE QUOTE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS DEPENDING ON THE COUNTRIES THEMSELVES AND THEIR CAPABILITIES UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME THAT GENSCHER HAS SPOKEN ABOUT ENLARGING THE EC EASTWARD. ON THIS OCCASION HE WAS PROBABLY FIRED BY HIS ENTHUSIASM FOR THE BALTICS FOLLOWING HIS VISIT RATHER THAN BY A DESIRE TO CONTRADICT THE MORE GRUDGING LINE COMING OUT OF PARIS.

MALLABY

YYYY

RESTRICTED

117320
MDHIAN 2721

DISTRIBUTION 257

MAIN 256

.FRAME EXTERNAL

ECD (E) [-]

ADDITIONAL 1

FRAME

NNNN

PAGE 2
RESTRICTED