

SENSITIVE

62068

Italy
10

PAGE 1 - 373

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/07/84//189

SITUATION: PRES MSGS
SUBJECT CATEGORY: IN

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE442
STU2727
OO RUEHC
DE RUEHRO #7109/01 3142019
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 102016Z NOV 83
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5712
BT

~~SECRET~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 ROME 27109

EXDIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MARR, PARM, PREL, IT, UR, US

SUBJECT: INF: LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT FROM PRIME MINISTER
CRAXI

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AT 1930 LOCAL TIME NOVEMBER 10 CRAXI'S ACTING DIPLOMATIC
ADVISOR BADINI HANDED THE DCM A MESSAGE FROM CRAXI TO THE
PRESIDENT, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS IN EMBASSY TRANSLATION.
BADINI MADE CLEAR THAT CRAXI HOPED FOR A RESPONSE FROM THE
PRESIDENT BEFORE THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE WHICH BEGINS HERE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, OR AT LEAST AN INDICATION FROM
WASHINGTON THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE MAKING A NEW
PROPOSAL TO THE SOVIETS IN GENEVA. BADINI SAID THAT THE
ITALIAN VIEW WAS THAT A NEW PROPOSAL WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY
BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DID NOT FEAR
A DEFEAT IN PARLIAMENT, BUT IT WANTED TO DO ALL POSSIBLE
TO CONVINCING THE PUBLIC THAT THE WESTERN POSITION WAS JUST.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR PRESIDENT,

I HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT IN RECENT DAYS TO THE COURSE
OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERMEDIATE LONG-RANGE NUCLEAR
FORCES. I HAVE STUDIED MUCH DATA AND INFORMATION
ON FORCE RELATIONSHIPS AND HAVE GONE OVER THE SALIENT
PHASES WHICH PRECEDED AND FOLLOWED THE "TWO TRACK" NATO
DECISION; I HAVE ANALYZED UNDERSTANDINGS AND PROGRAMS
ON FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SECURITY.
MY STUDY LEADS ME TO CONFIRM THE CORRECTNESS OF THE
1979 DECISION, AS IT HAS BEEN AMPLY DESCRIBED TO
NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS AND TO OUR PUBLIC OPINIONS.
I AM ALSO CONFIRMED IN THE CONVICTION THAT IT IS OUR DUTY
TO CONTINUE TO ASCERTAIN CAREFULLY HOW MUCH SPACE IF ANY
WE HAVE TO REACH IN GENEVA AN EQUITABLE AND VERIFIABLE
AGREEMENT ON INTERMEDIATE LONG-RANGE MISSILES BEFORE

SENSITIVE

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR MD8-222#62068

BY RW NARA DATE 11/2/11

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 374

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/07/84//189

SITUATION: PRES MSGS
SUBJECT CATEGORY: IN

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

THE NATO COUNTRIES BEGIN TO START UP OPERATIONS TO RE-BALANCE FORCES.

I SHALL DESCRIBE THE ANALYTICAL PORTIONS AND THE CONCLUSIONS OF MY REFLECTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THEN TO THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT DURING THE DEBATE ALREADY FIXED FOR NOVEMBER 14-15 IN A PLENARY SESSION OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

THE VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION WHICH WILL CLOSE THE DEBATE WILL NOT ENTER INTO THE MERITS OF THE DOUBLE DECISION TAKEN BY NATO IN 1979 BUT WILL CONCERN THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO APPLY IT.

IT IS MY DESIRE TO FURNISH YOU BRIEFLY IN ADVANCE WITH SOME ASPECTS OF MY CONCLUSIONS.

THERE EMERGES ABOVE ALL FROM MY REFLECTIONS A CONFIRMATION OF THE CLEAR WILL WHICH HAS BEEN SHOWN WITH CONSTANCY AND CONSISTENCY BY OUR COUNTRIES TO MAKE USE OF THE NEGOTIATING COMPONENT OF THE DOUBLE DECISION. THE ZERO-OPTION OFFER WHICH YOU MADE IN NOVEMBER 1981 IN CLOSE HARMONY WITH THE ALLIES FURNISHES THE CLEARST EVIDENCE OF THIS. THE RENOUNCIATION ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS OF SUCH ARMAMENTS SYSTEMS WAS AND CONTINUES TO BE, IN FACT, THE BEST AND SUREST WAY TOWARD THAT GENERALIZED PROCESS OF ARMS REDUCTIONS AND DISARMAMENT WHICH REPRESENT THE GENUINE OBJECTIVE OF FREE SOCIETIES AND THE CONFIDENT HOPE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE FAILURE ON THE SOVIET SIDE TO ACCEPT THE ZERO-OPTION LED US TO ADVANCE AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL BASED ON AN INTERMEDIATE SOLUTION. WE HAVE URGED, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO IT, THAT A BALANCE BE REACHED ON THE LOWEST POSSIBLE NUMBERS OF THE EQUATION OF FORCES. INDEED, THE ENTIRE NEGOTIATING APPROACH OF THE WEST GOES IN THIS DIRECTION.

THE READINESS WITH WHICH THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS WAS SOUGHT, THE CHOICE OF THE NEGOTIATING METHOD, GRADUALIST AND PRAGMATIC, FOR FIXING GLOBAL AND VERIFIABLE ARMAMENTS LIMITS, THE EXACT DEFINITION OF THE OBJECT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE SPECIFICATION OF CRITERIA AND PRINCIPLES FOR A CREDIBLE CONTROL FOR THE ARMS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION, ARE INDEED ELEMENTS WHICH SHOW THE SINCERE AND TOTAL COMMITMENT WHICH OUR COUNTRIES HAVE GIVEN IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE GENEVA DISCUSSIONS AND THEIR SUCCESS.

BT

#7109

NNNN

SENSITIVE

12
SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 371

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/07/84//189

SITUATION: PRES MSGS
SUBJECT CATEGORY: IN

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE444

STU2729

OO RUEHC

DE RUEHRO #7109/02 3142020

ZNY SSSSS ZZH

O 102016Z NOV 83

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5713

BT

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 ROME 27109

EXDIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: MARR, PARM, PREL, IT, UR, US

SUBJECT: INF: LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT FROM PRIME MINISTER
CRAXI

THIS LINE OF FLEXIBILITY, LINKED WITH THE FIRMNESS WITH WHICH THE WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE GUARDED THEIR IRRENOUNCEABLE RIGHTS TO THEIR OWN SECURITY, HAVE PERMITTED A LIMITED NEARING OF RESPECTIVE POSITIONS WHICH, ALTHOUGH IT IS STILL CLEARLY INSUFFICIENT, IS AT THE SAME TIME PERCEPTABLE. THE LAST PROPOSALS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET, ANDROPOV, ARE UNDOUBTEDLY A FURTHER EFFECT OF THE SOLIDITY AND CORRECTNESS OF OUR POSITION. THEY CONTINUE HOWEVER TO IMPOSE ON THE NEGOTIATIONS THE DIFFICULTIES REPRESENTED BY THE WELL KNOWN NEGATIVE PRECONDITIONS, BUT THEY DO CONTAIN ELEMENTS WORTHY OF ATTENTION AND NOT LACKING IN SIGNIFICANCE. IN FORMULATING THESE LATEST PROPOSALS, AND IN PARTICULAR BY LOWERING THE BALANCE LEVEL FROM 162 TO 140 INTERMEDIATE LONG-RANGE MISSILES, MOSCOW HAS IMPLICITLY ADMITTED HAVING PROCEEDED IN RECENT YEARS TO AN UNJUSTIFIED RE-ARMAMENT; IT HAS IMPLICITLY ADMITTED HAVING RUN A STRETCH OF ARMAMENTS RACE THAT NO REAL DEFENSE REQUIREMENT MADE NECESSARY.

I BELIEVE THAT OUR TASK NOW IS TO EXPLORE AGAIN AND WITH IMMEDIACY ALL OF THE NEGOTIATING POSSIBILITIES, WITH THE INTENT OF AVOIDING THE FINAL FAILURE OF THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS.

OUR ACTION WILL IN ANY CASE HAVE BEEN USEFUL IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN BECAUSE IT WOULD SERVE TO MAKE CLEAR THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THOSE WHO ARE STILL REFUSING TO DO THEIR PART TOWARD AN EFFORT OF PEACE AND DETENTE. THE WORLD SITUATION WHICH WE ARE ENCOUNTERING AT THE

SENSITIVE

SENSITIVE

13

PAGE 1 - 372

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 07/07/84//189

SITUATION: PRES MSGS
SUBJECT CATEGORY: IN

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MOMENT IS FULL OF TENSIONS; THE DANGEROUS HOTBEDS OF
CRISES AND THE GRAVE CONFLICTS TAKING PLACE HAVE BROUGHT
EAST-WEST RELATIONS TO A VERY WORRISOME DEGREE OF
DETERIORATION.

IN THIS DIFFICULT SITUATION YOU, BY DECIDING TO HOLD OPEN
THE PATH OF DIALOGUE AT GENEVA AFTER THE TRAGIC EPISODE
OF THE SOUTH KOREAN AIR CRASH, WERE ABLE TO GIVE PROOF
OF CLEAR VISION AND A HIGH SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.
TODAY IT IS PROPER TO MAKE ANOTHER POSITIVE GESTURE
TO RELAX THE CLIMATE OF DISTRUST AND FEAR WHICH PERVADES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THIS GESTURE AND THIS SORT OF
WESTERN INITIATIVE ARE HOPED FOR AND SUPPORTED
BY OURSELVES.

IT IS THEREFORE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO TAKE A
CONCERTED LOOK AT THE CONCRETE CONTENT WHICH TOGETHER
WE CAN GIVE TO THE PROPOSALS AGREED IN THE ATLANTIC
ALLIANCE AND ANNOUNCED BY YOU IN SEPTEMBER. WHAT IS
IMPORTANT IS THE PROMPT DEFINITION OF NUMERICAL LEVELS
FOR THE INF LONG-RANGE GLOBAL CEILING AND FOR REDUCED
DEPLOYMENT IN EUROPE. THIS INITIATIVE WILL PERMIT US
TO CONFIRM ALSO IN THE EYES OF OUR PUBLIC OPINIONS
THE INITIATIVE WHICH WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN SO
FAR IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, AS WELL AS GIVING TO THE
NEGOTIATIONS NEW DYNAMISM IN THE SEARCH OF AN AGREEMENT.
THE EXPERTS OF OUR COUNTRIES ARE ENGAGED IN THE STUDY
OF THE MODALITIES AND THE TERMS OF A POSSIBLE QUANTIFICA-
TION OF THE WESTERN PROPOSALS WITH OUR POLITICAL IMPETUS,
THE STUDY IS BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE
GROUP WHICH HAS BEGUN ITS WORK IN ROME. I WILL MAINTAIN
CLOSE CONTACT WITH YOU, WITH FEDERAL CHANCELLOR
KOHL AND WITH BRITISH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER, IN THE
HOPE THAT AFTER THE IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN ON THE
QUESTION OF ARMS REDUCTIONS WITH THE RECENT MONTEBELLO
DECLARATION, WE CAN TOGETHER FURNISH INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC
OPINION WITH A FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF OUR READINESS
FOR DIALOGUE AND OUR OPENNESS TOWARDS ORGANIZING IN THE
WORLD A PEACE WHICH WILL OFFER GUARANTEES TO ALL AND
SECURITY FOR EACH ONE.

WITH BEST REGARDS, B. CRAXI.

END TEXT. RABB

BT

#7109

NNNN

SENSITIVE