

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

Berlin

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Action

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Info

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VV EUA004REE001
RR RUEHC
DE RUFDDBG 1173 10/1910Z
R 101825Z ZEA
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO RUFLC/CINCEUR
INFO ZEN/USBER BERLIN
RUFPA/USAUR
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ACTION CINCEUR INFO BERLIN 803 USAREUR DEPT 2837 FEB, 10, 8 PM

FOR GENERAL LEMNITZER AND GENERAL MCCONNELL FROM AMBASSADOR
USAREUR FOR POLAD

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: AUTOBAHN CONVOYS

REF: ECJC J 04038

SEVERAL MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE LAST US NON-DISMOUNT CONVOY WAS SENT OVER THE AUTOBAHN AND I AM CONVINCED THAT TO AVOID SUCH CONVOYS INDIFINITELY WOULD RUN THE RISK OF JEOPARDIZING, THROUGH SELF-DENIAL, A PRINCIPLE WHICH WE EXPENDED CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH. AN OCCASIONAL NON-DISMOUNT CONVOY WOULD NOT APPEAR CONTROVERSIAL OR PROVOCATIVE SINCE THEY ARE NOTHING NEW AND, IF OUR INTERPRETATION IS CORRECT, ARE SPECIFICALLY FORESEEN IN THE SOVIET DEFINITION OF "EXISTING PROCEDURES".

THEREFORE, WHILE I DO NOT KNOW THE BACKGROUND OF YOUR DECISION TO RECONFIGURE US CONVOY 2 AS A DISMOUNT CONVOY ON FEB 5, I AM INCLINED TO THINK THAT THE PROPOSED NON-DISMOUNT CONVOY 11 ON FEB 24 SHOULD BE SENT AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED, PARTICULARLY SINCE WE NOW HAVE THE JCS REPLY (JCS 4453) WHICH WILL PERMIT FLEXIBILITY ON THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS PER VEHICLE.

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MCGHEE
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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.4
State Dept. Guidelines
By *sj/cbm* NARA, Date *5-25-06*