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CONFIDENTIAL

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FM TOKYO TO FCOLN

260315Z FEB

GRS 325

CONFIDENTIAL

FM TOKYO

TO DESKBY 261200Z FCO

TELNO 206

OF 260315Z FEBRUARY 89

INFO DESKBY 260600Z PEKING

INFO IMMEDIATE PARIS

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON

FOR RESIDENT CLERK

YOUR TELNO 238 (NOT TO PARIS): FRENCH ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

SUMMARY

1. INITIATIVE WAS NOT (NOT) RAISED AT BUSH/MITTERRAND LUNCH.

DETAIL

2. SUBRENAT (MINISTER, FRENCH EMBASSY), WHO ATTENDED THE LUNCH, TOLD US THAT MITTERRAND RAISED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WITH BUSH (AND LATER TAKESHITA) IN REVIEWING TOPICS FOR THE PARIS SUMMIT. IN ADDITION TO THE TRADITIONAL MACRO-ECONOMIC POLICY ISSUES, MITTERRAND THOUGHT THE SUMMIT SHOULD FOCUS ON A) GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND B) THE DEBT PROBLEM. ON A), HE REFERRED TO CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD, WHICH WOULD HAVE ENORMOUS EFFECTS ON HUMANITY IN FUTURE DECADES. THERE WERE 5-6 MAJOR ISSUES, SUCH AS DESERTIFICATION. (EG MALI) AND CHRONIC FLOODING (EG BANGLA DESH) WHICH REQUIRED A CONCERTED RESPONSE. THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES COULD PROVIDE THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY REQUIRED. THIS WOULD NOT BE WITHOUT AN ECONOMIC RETURN. WE NEEDED TO TACKLE THE PROBLEMS AT BOTH A GLOBAL AND LOCAL LEVEL: IT WAS NO GOOD TRYING TO PERSUADE A BRAZILIAN FORESTER NOT TO CUT DOWN TREES FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD CLIMATE IF HE STOOD THEN TO LOSE HIS LIVELIHOOD. BUSH SEEMED BROADLY IN AGREEMENT WITH ALL OF THIS. THE ROCARD INITIATIVE WAS NOT RAISED BY EITHER SIDE.

3. DISCUSSION OF DEBT AT THE LUNCH CENTRED ON THE FRENCH PROPOSALS INVOLVING NEW SDR'S. BAKER ASKED IF THEY WOULD NOT REQUIRE NEW ECONOMIC REFORMS IN THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. MITTERRAND AGREED THAT THERE WOULD NEED TO BE NEW STRUCTURES IN THEM. IT WAS NECESSARY TO DIFFERENTIATE CAREFULLY BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DEBT AND BETWEEN LDC'S AND NIE'S. SPECIFIC CASES WERE DISCUSSED (BRASIL, PERU, CAMEROON). MITTERRAND STRESSED THE NEED TO RESPOND TO THE BASIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE LDC'S. SUBRENAT THOUGHT THERE WAS A GENERAL CONSENSUS ON A DOUBLE APPROACH: ECONOMIC REFORMS AND DEBT ALLEVIATION.

FIELD

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