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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON2523ADMINISTRATIVELY
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April 22, 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*
SUBJECT: A Message From FRG President Scheel

A major analysis of contemporary West Germany published in the International Herald Tribune included an open message to the readers from FRG President Walter Scheel on April 16. The message is one of the strongest statements in many months by a foreign leader in support of the United States, and asserting the importance of close ties to the U.S., Europe's need of the U.S., and the necessity of a strong Atlantic Alliance. In view of Scheel's expression of friendship for the United States, and looking toward his state visit here in early June, the full text of his message is included in the following paragraphs for your information:

"When difficulties occur, they show the worth of friendships between human beings and nations. In view of the current world situation the partners in the Atlantic Alliance need each other more than ever.

The United States of America has remained faithful to the Federal Republic of Germany since its foundation and helped it in very difficult times. The United States has never left any doubt that it will stand by its commitment to guarantee our external security. We have every reason to believe that this will not change.

For our part, the Federal Republic of Germany will be found on the side of the United States whenever it needs its friends.

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My country, as well as all of Western Europe, needs the United States. Anyone who argues differently indulges in dangerous illusions. Europe and America depend on each other. It is thus, in my opinion, the natural consequence of the current difficulties that we jointly try to strengthen and deepen the Alliance.

The Atlantic Alliance will best be strengthened if Europe unites. The United States and a united Europe, linked in Atlantic partnership, will be strong enough to maintain in peace the position of the Western democracies.

In Atlantic togetherness we shall also be free to dedicate our still enormous intellectual reserves and economic power to the causes of progress and peace in the entire world.

My forthcoming visit to the United States should emphasize to the American government and people that the Federal Republic of Germany will use its best resources to accomplish these ends.

- Walter Scheel
President
West German Republic
Bonn"

This memorandum is for your information. No further action is required on your part.

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