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COPY: MR. RABIER, MR. JANZ, DG X
CABINET MR. BORSCHETTE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MANSHOLT'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

THIS AFTERNOON IN NEW YORK, PRESIDENT MANSHOLT, AT A WELL ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING A SYMPOSIUM OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CED), SUGGESTED THAT A SUMMIT CONFERENCE BE HELD BETWEEN THE MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES TO DECIDE UPON LONG RUN OBJECTIVES TO BE PURSUED IN INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH OBJECTIVES WOULD BE DEFINED NOT ONLY FOR THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES BUT ALSO BETWEEN THEM AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE CONCLUSIONS OF SUCH A SUMMIT MEETING COULD SERVE AS A FRAMEWORK FOR THE UPCOMING MONETARY AND TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS AMBASSADOR WILLIAM EBERLE, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, WHO WAS ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE SUGGESTION. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE US PRESIDENT IS CONSIDERING A EUROPEAN VISIT EARLY NEXT YEAR. HE SAID THIS WOULD PROBABLY ACHIEVE THE SAME OBJECTIVES WITHOUT THE NECESSITY FOR SUCH A SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

IN HIS COMMENTS TO THE PRESS, PRESIDENT MANSHOLT SAID THAT THE ENLARGED COMMUNITY RECOGNIZED A VERY GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND WORLD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THIS HAD BEEN EXPRESSED VERY CLEARLY IN THE PARIS SUMMIT CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS WELL PREPARED AND DURING WHICH IMPORTANT DECISIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY. THE COMMUNITY IS ALSO VERY MUCH CONCERNED WITH ITS RELATIONS WITH THE POOR PART OF THE WORLD, AND IT HOPED TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN THIS FIELD. THE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES AT SANTIAGO, AND THE DECISION HAD BEEN THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD INCREASE IMPORTS FROM THESE COUNTRIES BY A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT ANNUALLY.

PRESIDENT MANSHOLT ALSO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROGRAM OF ACTION BEING PURSUED BY THE COMMUNITY IN THE SOCIAL FIELD, RANGING FROM IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LABOR TO REGIONAL POLICY.

PRESIDENT MANSHOLT SAID THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE COMMON PROBLEMS FACING BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE COMMUNITY COULD BE SOLVED, AND WELCOMED THE DESIRE OF PRESIDENT NIXON TO MEET WITH THE LEADING STATESMEN OF THE COMMUNITY. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT THE US PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT ONLY SPEAK WITH THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL STATES, BUT ALSO WITH THE LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT HAS SUCH A GREAT IMPACT AND IMPORTANCE IN WORLD DEVELOPMENT.