

CN 165

E/W - NATO MUST BE STRENGTHENED: BONN OFFICIAL

ANKARA, SEPT 6, REUTER - HERR KONRAD AHLERS, WEST GERMANY'S DEPUTY CHIEF GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IN A TURKISH TELEVISION INTERVIEW TODAY THAT THE STRENGTHENING OF NATO WAS ALL IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF THE SOVIET INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

HE ALSO SAID THE SOVIET NAVAL BUILDUP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AFFECTED NATOS SOUTHERN FLANK AND WAS WATCHED WITH CONCERN IN BONN.

BUT HERR AHLERS ADDED THAT THERE MUST BE CARE TO AVOID ANY ACTIONS WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS PROVOCATIVE.

HE IS IN TURKEY WITH KURT GEORG KIESINGER THE WEST GERMAN CHANCELLOR, WHO TODAY OPENED TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER SULEYMAN DEMIREL.

KIESINGER ARRIVED IN ANKARA YESTERDAY FOR THE EIGHTH TOP-LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

WEST GERMANY IS TURKEY'S BIGGEST SUPPLIER OF FOREIGN AID AFTER THE UNITED STATES. DURING THE FIRST FIVE YEAR PLAN PERIOD BETWEEN 1963 AND 1967 SHE PROVIDED OVER 213 MILLION DOLLARS (ABOUT 90 MILLION STERLING) THROUGH THE WESTERN AID CONSORTIUM.

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