

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: [Biosurveillance] (5 pages)	07/02/1998	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: [French GMO Corn Approvals] (2 pages)	07/06/1998	P1/b(1) v2 4/3/2020
003. cable	[duplicate of 001] (5 pages)	07/07/1998	P1/b(1)
004. cable	Re: [GMO Corn Approvals] (2 pages)	07/10/1998	P1/b(1) v2 4/3/2020
005. cable	Re: [Argentina] (4 pages)	07/10/1998	P1/b(1)
006. cable	Re: [GMO Approvals] (5 pages)	07/17/1998	P1/b(1)
007. cable	Re: Status of French Decision on GMO Corn (3 pages)	07/20/1998	P1/b(1) v2 4/3/2020
008. cable	Re: [GMO Impasse] (2 pages)	07/29/1998	P1/b(1) v2 4/3/2020
009. cable	Re: [GMO Issue] (4 pages)	07/31/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997 - Dec 1998 ([GMO...])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/02/1998 - 07/31/1998]

2013-0836-F

ke3011

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHFRA4833 1831133-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 021133Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
OSRI: RUEHFR
DTG: 021133Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7263
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0532
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 6545
SUBJ: FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT ON GMO'S

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 014833

USDA FOR OSEC FOR DRAZEK, UNDER SECRETARY
SCHUMACHER; FAS FOR OA/LHATAMIYA/TGALVIN;
ITP/DA/PSHEIKH; ITP/WEIAD/CTHORN/MCHESLEY;
OFSTS/LHARBERT; CMP/DA/JPARKER;
CMP/G&F/RIEMENSCHNEIDER; FAA/PLETARTE; APHIS/
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE PASS USTR FOR SCHER AND MURPHY
STATE PASS FDA
GENEVA FOR USTR, ALSO AGRICULTURE
EU POSTS PASS AGCOUNSELOR
CONGEN MILAN PASS ATO
BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEU

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TBIO, KSCA, EUN, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT ON GMO'S

REF: (A) PARIS 11062; (B) PARIS 12116; (C) PARIS
12959; (D) PARIS 14245

1. SUMMARY: JEAN-YVES LE DEAUT, THE FRENCH
PARLIAMENTARIAN WHO ORGANIZED THE CONFERENCE OF
CONSENSUS ON GMO'S ON JUNE 20-21, RELEASED HIS
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE USE OF GMO'S IN
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ON JUNE 30 (REF A AND B).
NOTE: THE FINAL VERSION OF THE REPORT WILL BE
RELEASED IN OCTOBER. END NOTE. THE REPORT IS
PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S WEB
SITE AT: [HTTP://WWW.PREMIER-MINISTRE.GOUV.FR/
FAIT/FAIT.HTM#ANCHOR16](http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/FAIT/FAIT.HTM#ANCHOR16). THIS REPORT INCLUDES LE
DEAUT'S PERSONAL OPINION ON GMO'S, BASED OTHE
INTERVIEWS WHICH HE CONDUCTED WORLD WIDE, THE

PUBLIC HEARINGS (REF C), AND THE CONCLUSIONS ON THE PANEL OF CITIZENS AFTER THE CONFERENCE OF CONSENSUS (REF D). LE DEAUT'S REPORT, IN WHICH HE CAUTIOUSLY FAVORS THE USE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY TECHNIQUES IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, IS AN ADVISORY DOCUMENT TO THE GOF CONCERNING ITS POLICY ON GMO'S. END SUMMARY.

2. FOR THE USE OF GMO'S...

LE DEAUT CONSIDERS THAT "THESE TECHNIQUES, WHICH ARE ACCEPTED TO SAVE LIVES (NOTE: PHARMACEUTICAL USE OF BIOTECH IS WELL ACCEPTED BY FRENCH PUBLIC OPINION. END NOTE), SHOULD NOT BE SUSPECTED TO ENDANGER THE INTEGRITY OF LIFE WHEN THEY ARE USED TO ELABORATE FOOD." LE DEAUT CONTINUES THAT "IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT FRANCE, WHICH HAS BEEN A LEADER IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN MANY SECTORS, REJECTS THESE TECHNOLOGIES OF THE FUTURE."

3. ...BUT NOT AT ANY PRICE

ON THE OTHER HAND, LE DEAUT'S MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE USE OF GMO'S ARE CAUTIOUS:

(A) LE DEAUT FAVORS THE GOF'S TRANSCRIPTION INTO THE FRENCH LAW OF THE EU AUTHORIZATION OF THE TWO PENDING CORN VARIETIES, UNDER "BIOVIGILANCE" CONDITIONS. HE INSISTS THAT "THERE WOULD BE NO JUSTIFICATION FOR THE GOF TO REFUSE THE TWO CORNS" SINCE FRENCH AND EUROPEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES BELIEVE THE RISKS ARE NEGLIGIBLE AND FAVOR THEIR MARKETING.

(B) LE DEAUT STANDS FOR MAINTAINING THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE NOVARTIS BT CORN. HOWEVER, IF NEW RISKS ARE DEMONSTRATED (ESPECIALLY RELATED TO THE AMPICILIN RESISTANCE GENE), LE DEAUT WOULD SUPPORT REPEALING THE AUTHORIZATION.

(C) LE DEAUT RECOMMENDS A TWO YEAR MORATORIUM FOR THE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF THE PGS-AGREVO RAPESEED VARIETIES CONTAINING AN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENE WHICH WERE APPROVED BY THE EU IN 1997. ON THE OTHER HAND, LE DEAUT FAVORS THE AUTHORIZATION OF IMPORTATION OF THESE VARIETIES. NOTE: LE DEAUT SPECIFIES THAT AUTHORIZING IMPORTS AND BANNING DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF GMOS RAPESEED WOULD NOT BE CONTRADICTIONARY, UNLIKE THE SAME SITUATION WITH NOVARTIS BT CORN IN 1997. THIS IS DUE TO THE POTENTIAL CROSS BREEDING OF GMO RAPESEED WITH WILD PLANTS, WHILE GMO CORN CANNOT CROSS BREED WITH WILD PLANTS. LE DEAUT, THEREFORE, OPINES THAT THERE WOULD BE A RISK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT TO AUTHORIZE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF GMO RAPESEED, WHILE THERE IS NO RISK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT TO GROW GMO CORN. END NOTE.

(D) LE DEAUT IS AGAINST THE APPROVAL OF FURTHER GMO'S CONTAINING A WHOLE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENE AND AGAINST THE APPROVAL OF GMO'S THAT INCLUDE SEVERAL GENES OF HERBICIDE RESISTANCE WHICH CAN CROSS BREED WITH UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 014833

USDA FOR OSEC FOR DRAZEK, UNDER SECRETARY SCHUMACHER; FAS FOR OA/LHATAMIYA/TGALVIN; ITP/DA/PSHEIKH; ITP/WEIAD/CTHORN/MCHESLEY; OFSTS/LHARBERT; CMP/DA/JPARKER; CMP/G&F/RIEMENSCHNEIDER; FAA/PLETARTE; APHIS/ADMINISTRATOR

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GENEVA FOR USTR, ALSO AGRICULTURE
EU POSTS PASS AGCOUNSELOR
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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEU

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TBIO, KSCA, EUN, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT ON GMO'S

REF: (A) PARIS 11062; (B) PARIS 12116; (C) PARIS H WEEDS.

4. GMO LABELING

IN HIS REPORT, LE DEAUT PROVIDES A SERIES OF GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS STRENGTHENING FRENCH RESEARCH PROGRAMS ON GMO'S, FAVORING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON GMO'S, REFORMING GMO EVALUATION PROCEDURES, CONTINUING A PUBLIC DEBATE IN FRANCE FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE OF CONSENSUS, ORGANIZING THE FRENCH BIOVIGILANCE NETWORK, REVISING EU DIRECTIVES, AND, ABOVE ALL, INFORMING CONSUMERS.

LE DEAUT RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING: (1) COMPULSORY LABELING FOR FOOD PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM GMOS PLANTS INDICATING "CONTAINS GMO'S" OR "DOES NOT CONTAIN GMO'S;" (2) TRACEABILITY OF THE KERNELS FROM THE FIELDS TO PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS AT RETAILERS; AND (3) THE DEFINITION OF A THRESHOLD TO DECLARE THAT A PRODUCT CONTAINS GMO'S OR NOT.

5. PRESS REACTION

THERE WERE FEW ARTICLES IN THE FRENCH PRESS ON THE DAY FOLLOWING THE RELEASE OF LE DEAUT'S REPORT. THE DAILY PAPERS "LE FIGARO" AND "LES ECHOS" REPORTED ON THE CONTENTS OF THE REPORT WITHOUT ANY COMMENT.
ROHATYN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 4833

<^SSN>4833

TOR: 980702073911 M3360990

<^TOR>980702073927 M3360992

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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001. cable	Re: [Biosurveillance] (5 pages)	07/02/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997 - Dec 1998 ([GMO...])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/02/1998 - 07/31/1998]

2013-0836-F
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- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
LINE1: OAACZYUW RUEHFRA4992 1870530-CCCC--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNY CCCCC ZZH
LINE3: O 060530Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
OSRI: RUEHFR
DTG: 060530Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7293
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0534
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 6547
SUBJ: FRENCH GMO CORN APPROVALS EXPECTED SOON, WE HOPE

TEXT:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PARIS 014992

STATE PASS USDA FOR SECRETARY GLICKMAN, OSEC FOR DRAZEK, UNDER
SECRETARY SCHUMACHER, FAS FOR OA/LHATAMIYA/TGALVIN; ITP/DA/SHSIKH;
ITP/WEIAD/CTHORN/MCHESLEY

USTR FOR SCHER, NOVELLI AND MURPHY
STATE PASS FDA FOR COMMISSIONER
GENEVA FOR USTR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 7/2/03
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TBIO, KSCA, EUN, FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH GMO CORN APPROVALS EXPECTED SOON, WE HOPE

REF: (A) PARIS 14579, (B) PARIS 14245

CLASSIFIED BY A/MNE KIRK RESSLER FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

SEE PARA 5 FOR ACTION REQUEST.

1. ~~(C)~~ BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER'S AGRICULTURE AND TRADE ADVCSERS
HAVE TOLD US THAT THE GOF SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM APPROVING THE TWO
PENDING GMO CORNS - THE QUESTION IS WHEN. THE ISSUE WAS NOT
DISCUSSED AT THE JULY 1 INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING CHAIRED BY THE
PRIME MINISTER. SUCH MEETINGS ARE HELD EACH WEDNESDAY. THE AG
ADVISER TOLD US THAT MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE
LE DEAUT REPORT (REFTELS) BY NEXT WEDNESDAY. BOTH CONTACTS HINTED
THAT THE APPROVALS ARE ON THE WAY AND THAT IT IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF JAITING -
CORN
WOULD BE APPROVED AT THE JULY 8 MEETING. HOWEVER, OUR GUESS IS
THEY WILL BE.

2. ~~(C)~~ WE RAISED WITH THE TRADE ADVISER THE POSSIBLE TIME LAG
BETWEEN GOF APPROVAL AND GETTING ALL THE PAPERWORK DONE TO ACTUALLY
ALLOW THE CORNS INTO THE EU, NOTING THAT IT HAD TAKEN SOME WEEKS

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 (b)
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VL NARA, Date 11/24/2014
2016-0524-u (2.11)

FOR THE UK TO DO IT AND THAT THE SEASON FOR SHIPPING TO SPAIN WAS FAST DRAWING TO A CLOSE. WE ASKED WHETHER FRANCE COULD NOT GET THE PAPERWORK PREPARED IN ADVANCE OR TALK TO THE SPANISH INFOR}LLY TO LET THEM KNOW THAT THE APPROVALS ARE ON THE WAY. THE TRADE ADVISER SAID HE HAD NOT KNOWN ABOUT POSSIBLE POST-APPROVAL DELAYS. HE TOOK ON BOARD OUR SUGGESTIONS BUT MADE NO PROMISES.

3. ~~(C)~~ BOTH ADVISERS TOLD US THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WANTS TO HAVE BILATERAL SCIENTIST TO SCIENTIST DISCUSSIONS ON GMO'S. THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SUCH DISCUSSIONS WOULD INTERFERE WITH A U.S.-EU DIALOGUE UNDER THE TEP. TRADE ADVISER NOTED THAT FOR THE LONGER TERM THE GOF FAVORS THE USE OF GMO'S. IT IS EUROPE'S BIGGEST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER AND HAS THE MOST DEVELOPED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY. THE PROBLEM FOR FRANCE IS TO ENSURE THAT THE ISSUE DOES NOT BLOW UP DOMESTICALLY AND RESTRICT ITS LONGER TERM ABILITY TO USE GMO'S. THE CONFERENCE OF CONSENSUS WAS A PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO PUT A GOOD SPIN ON THE MATTER. HE SAID THAT WE SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO THE INTERIM (JUNE 30) LE DEAUT REPORT, HINTING THAT THIS WAS THE VERSION THE GOF IS LOOKING AT CLOSELY.

4. ~~(C)~~ PM'S TRADE ADVISER NOTED THAT THE GOF DID HAVE PROBLEMS WITH GMO'S CONTAINING ANTIBIOTIC GENE MARKERS AND VARIETIES THAT CAN SPREAD IN THE WILD (LIKE CANOLA). WE TOLD HIM THAT GMO'S WITH ONE OR BOTH OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS HAVE MET THE STANDARDS FOR APPROVAL IN THE USG AND THAT FRANCE SHOULD AIM FOR A SCIENCE-BASED APPROVAL PROCESS. (COMMENT: OBTAINING APPROVALS FOR THESE TYPES OF GMO'S ARE LIKELY TO BE A PROBLEM FOR US WITH FRANCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. EN COMMENT.) TRADE ADVISER REITERATED THE GOF'S INTEREST IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AMONG SCIENTISTS, NOTING THAT MOST SCIENTISTS ARE GOING TO AGREE ON WHAT IS SAFE AND WHAT IS NOT.

5. ~~(C)~~ PLEASE PROVIDE GUIDANCE ASAP ON HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND TO THE GOF'S INTEREST IN SCIENTIST TO SCIENTIST DISCUSSIONS. IF WE COULD CARRY OUT THIS TYPE OF DISCUSSION WITHOUT INTERFERING WITH THE TEP AND WITHOUT ENCOURAGING 14 OTHER U.S.-EU MEMBER STATE SCIENTIFIC DIALOGUES ON THE SAME SUBJECT, WE THINK IT WOULD BE A VALUABLE EXERCISE IN MOVING FORWARD THE GMO DOSSIER HERE. AT A MINIMUM WE THINK IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE FOR US TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SUCH A DIALOGUE FURTHER WITH THE GOF.

ROHATYN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4992

TOR: 980706013642 M3363830

DIST:

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003. cable	[duplicate of 001] (5 pages)	07/07/1998	P1/b(1)

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TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7536
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0543
SUBJ: GMO CORN APPROVALS STILL ON HOLD - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
EVALUATING OVERALL GMO POLICY

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 (b)
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VT NARA, Date 11/24/09
2016-0524-m (2.14)

CLASSIFIED BY DCM W.R. PEARSON FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

TEXT:
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PARIS 015673

STATE PASS USDA FOR U/S SCHUMACHER, DRAZEK, HATAMIYA, GALVIN,
SCHEIKH, THORN, AND CHESLEY
USTR FOR SCHER, NOVELLI AND MURPHY
STATE PASS FDA
GENEVA FOR USTR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 7/10/03
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EUN, FR, TBIO, KSCA
SUBJECT: GMO CORN APPROVALS STILL ON HOLD - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
EVALUATING OVERALL GMO POLICY

CLASSIFIED BY DCM W.R. PEARSON FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

REF: (A) PARIS 14992; (B) PARIS 14833

1. ~~(C)~~ SUMMARY. THE DCM SPOKE JULY 9 WITH JEAN-MAURICE RIPERT, THE PRIME MINISTER'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISER. HE EMPHASIZED TO RIPERT THE POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE STALLED APPROVAL FOR THE TWO PENDING GMO CORN VARIETIES AND THE LIKELY REACTION IF U.S. INDUSTRY WERE NOT ABLE TO EXPORT CORN TO EUROPE THIS SUMMER. GOF ComTACTS TELL US THAT THE CURRENT PLAN IS FOR ADVISERS IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE TO MEET MONDAY, JULY 13 TO REVIEW THE LE DEAUT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS (REF B). THE ADVISERS ARE TO PROVIDE THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS ON OVERALL GMO POLICY TO THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO WILL THEN "REFLECT" ON THE RECOMMENDED POLICY AND EITHER MAKE A DECISION HIMSELF (ON THE POLICY AND THE PENDING CORN APPROVALS) OR BRING IT TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE ADVISERS WILL PRESENT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PM, HOW LONG HE WILL REFLECT, OR WHEN A DECISION WILL BE MADE, A CLEAR CHANGE OF HEART FROM THE POSITIONS GIVEN IN REF A. ALTHOUGH SOME CONTACTS CONTINUE TO TELL US THAT A DECISION ON THE CORNS IS LIKELY WITHIN

TWO WEEKS, WE DOUBT THAT ANYONE IN THE GOF REALLY KNOWS WHEN THIS WILL HAPPEN. END SUMMARY.

2. ~~(C)~~ IN ADDITION TO THE DCM'S APPROACH NOTED ABOVE, EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED THE GMO CORN SITUATION WITH CLAUDE CHEREAU, THE PM'S AGRICULTURAL ADVISER, SOPHIE BERANGER, FOOD SAFETY ADVISER TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND VISITING COMMERCE A/S MULLOY RAISED THE ISSUE WITH SENIOR DREE OFFICIALS PAUL-HENRI RAVIER AND DAVID APPIA. THE DREE OFFICIALS SAID THEY DID NOT KNOW AND COULD NOT SPECULATE AS TO WHEN THE TWO GMO CORNS WOULD BE APPROVED.

3. ~~(C)~~ PM AG ADVISER CHEREAU SAID THAT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PM JOSPIN ARE STILL BEING PREPARED BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS, WHO WILL MEET NEXT WEEK TO TRY TO FINALIZE THE RECOMMENDATIONS. BERANGER SPECIFIED THAT A MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY JULY 13, AND WILL INCLUDE ALL THE ADVISERS TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE GMO ISSUE. SHE EXPECTS THAT ALL THE PROPOSALS FROM THE TECHNICAL EXPERTS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE MEETING. IF THE PARTICIPANTS REACH A CONSENSUS THE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL THEN BE PRESENTED TO JOSPIN. (COMMENT. BUT WE ARE NOT SURE WHEN THE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL REACH JOSPIN OR HOW LONG JOSPIN MAY "REFLECT" ON THE SUGGESTED POLICY. END COMMENT.)

4. ~~(C)~~ ACCORDING TO CHEREAU, THE RECOMMENDATIONS INVOLVE FRANCE'S FUTURE GMO POLICIES AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE MOSTLY IN LINE WITH THE LE DEAUT REPORT (REF B). THE ISSUE OF GMO VARIETIES CONTAINING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT MARKERS SEEMS ESPECIALLY CONTENTIOUS. CHEREAU SAID THERE IS DIFFICULTY FOR RAPESEED/CANOLA. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THE ADVISERS' RECOMMENDATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE TWO PENDING CORN VARIETIE.

5. ~~(C)~~ BERANGER, WHO CONCEDED SHE MAY BE TOO OPTIMISTIC, OPINED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S FINAL DECISION IS LIKELY TO OCCUR IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. (AN ADVISER IN THE PM'S OFFICE WHO IS NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE GMO ISSUE CONFIRMED THE PLANNED MONDAY MEETING AND THE GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT A DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN WITHIN TWO WEEKS.) HOWEVER, CHEREAU WOULD ONLY SAY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL OBTAIN THE FINAL RECOMMENDATION "SOMETIME BEFORE THE END OF JULY". AFTER RECEIVING THE RECOMMENDATION, THE PRIME MINISTER COULD THEN MAKE A DECISION ON THE TWO VARIETIES HIMSELF OR, MORE LIKELY, DECIDE TO DISCUSS IT AT A COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING.

6. ~~(C)~~ WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION THIS WEEK OPENED A CORN TENDER FOR SPAIN BUT THAT RESPONSE WAS MINIMAL AND NO OFFERS WERE ACCEPTED, POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF THE RISK ASSOCIATED WITH SHIPPING U.S. CORN NOT YET APPROVED IN EUROPE.

ROHATYN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5673

TOR: 980710165014 M3372587

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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FOLDER TITLE:

[07/02/1998 - 07/31/1998]

2013-0836-F
ke3011

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
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b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHMDA7229 1961136-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 151136Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
OSRI: RUEHMD
DTG: 151136Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO: RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1148
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
SUBJ: SPANIARDS INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED
OVER GMO DELAY AND INABILITY TO IMPORT U.S.
CORN

TEXT:
UNCLAS MADRID 007229

STATE PASS USDA FOR U/S SHUMACHER; DRAZEK
FAS FOR GALVIN; ITP/SHEIKH/THORN/CHESLEY;
CMP/G&F/RADLER/SCHATZ
USTR MURPHY; SCHER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EUN, SP

SUBJECT: SPANIARDS INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATED
OVER GMO DELAY AND INABILITY TO IMPORT U.S.
CORN

1. AGATT AND FSN CONTACTED SPAIN'S LEADING
CORN IMPORTERS AND MET WITH ANDRES DE LEON
LLAMAZARES, DEPUTY D.G. FOR GRAINS AND PULSES,
MIN OF AG, ON 13 AUGUST TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT
CORN QUOTA SITUATION.

2. BOTH PRIVATE SECTOR AND GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS EXPRESSED FRUSTRATION OVER THE
INABILITY TO IMPORT U.S. CORN AS A RESULT OF
THE CONTINUED DELAY IN APPROVAL OF U.S. GMO
CORN VARIETIES. MR. LLAMAZARES INDICATED THAT
TIMING IS NOW CRITICAL. HE SAID THAT THE GOS
WOULD NOT BE IN FAVOR OF CORN IMPORTS AFTER 15
AUGUST AND WOULD ABSOLUTELY BE OPPOSED TO CORN
ENTERING IN SEPTEMBER, WHEN SPAIN'S CORN CROP
BEGINS TO BE HARVESTED. AS IMPORTERS HAVE
GUARANTEED THAT THEY COULD HAVE THE CORN IN
PORT THREE WEEKS AFTER BID APPROVAL, MR.
LLAMAZARES FEELS THAT THE CURRENT 600,000 TON
TRANCHE WILL NEED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END

OF JULY. HOWEVER, HE DOUBTED THAT THIS IS REALISTIC.

3. MR. LLAMAZARES REPORTED THAT SOME MEMBER STATES WERE INTERESTED IN HAVING ACCESS TO THE QUOTA IF SPAIN COULDN'T COMPLETE IT. HOWEVER, MR. LLAMAZARES EXPRESSED HIS OPPOSITION TO THIS IDEA, AND THAT THE GOS WOULD BE OPPOSED TO ANY EFFORTS TO ALTER THE EU/US ENLARGEMENT AGREEMENT, WHICH GUARANTEES SPAIN'S ACCESS TO THE FULL QUANTITY OF THE QUOTA. HE SAID SPAIN'S LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY, PARTICULARLY THE PORK SECTOR, RELIES ON ACCESS TO THE FULL QUOTA AMOUNT TO MAINTAIN ITS COMPETITIVENESS. HE ALSO REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CORN ENTERING DURING THE DECEMBER-MAY PERIOD.

4. MEANWHILE, PRIVATE IMPORTERS CONTINUE TO ANXIOUSLY AWAIT U.S. CORN ELIGIBILITY. IF APPROVAL COMES SOON, THEY FEEL THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE CURRENT 600,000 TON TRANCHE WILL BE SOURCED FROM THE U.S. IN ANTICIPATION THAT FRANCE WAS GOING TO PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL, SEVERAL IMPORTERS HAD BIDS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES OF U.S. CORN PREPARED PRIOR TO THE 9 AUGUST GRAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. WHILE THE GRAINS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAD REPORTEDLY PROVIDED ASSURANCES THAT U.S. CORN BIDS WOULD BE ACCEPTED, THE MAJOR IMPORTERS WERE STILL RELUCTANT TO SUBMIT THE BIDS TO IMPORT A COMMODITY WHICH IN THEIR VIEW IS STILL "ILLEGAL" IN THE EU. THE FINANCIAL AND LEGAL RISKS ARE, IN THEIR OPINION, TOO GREAT. THEY DISMISSED THE BIDS THAT WERE SUBMITTED FOR U.S. CORN AS BEING UNREALISTIC AND ONLY REPRESENTING MINOR IMPORTERS "TESTING THE WATER." ROMERO.

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7229

TOR: 980715074131 M3377662

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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006. cable	Re: [GMO Approvals] (5 pages)	07/17/1998	P1/b(1)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997 - Dec 1998 ([GMO...])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/02/1998 - 07/31/1998]

2013-0836-F
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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHVIA6247 2010955-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 200955Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
OSRI: RUEHVI
DTG: 200955Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1660
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7210
INFO: RUCPDC/USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS IMMEDIAT
SUBJ: MEDIA COVERAGE: U/S STUART EIZENSTAT'S VISIT TO
AUSTRIA; HOLOCAUST RESTITUTION; GMO'S, RUSSIA ECONOMY;
TEXT: UNCLAS VIENNA 006247

USIS

USIA FOR WEU -- PAUL DENIG, R/PM, R/MR

STATE FOR EUR/AGS, INR/WEA AND INR/P

STATE FOR UNDERSECRETARY EIZENSTAT

USDOC FOR 4220/OEURA

WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC/WEUROPE

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AU, PREL, PGOV,

SUBJECT: MEDIA COVERAGE: U/S STUART EIZENSTAT'S VISIT TO
AUSTRIA; HOLOCAUST RESTITUTION; GMO'S, RUSSIA ECONOMY;
ICC.

SUMMARY:

1. STUART EIZENSTAT, UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS, HEADED THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE U.S./EU SENIOR LEVEL GROUP, MEETIN[WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE. USIS VIENNA ARRANGED AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW FOR U/S EIZENSTAT WITH FOREIGN EDITOR ERIC FREY OF THE PRESTIGIOUS DAILY "DER STANDARD." THE INTERVIEW WAS FEATURED IN SUMMARY ON THE FRONT PAGE; THE FULL VERSION FILLED TWO-THIRDS OF PAGE 3. A RELATED ARTICLE IN A BACK PAGE OF THE DAILY FOCUSED ON THE RETENTION OF TWO "SCHIELE" PAINTINGS IN NEW YORK AS WELL AS ON

UNDERSECRETARY EIZENSTAT'S TALK WITH AUSTRIAN EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ELISABETH GEHRER. IN THE INTERVIEW, THE UNDERSECRETARY SPOKE ABOUT THE RESTITUTION OF JEWISH PROPERTY; THE ADMISSION OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED U.S.AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO THE EUROPEAN AND PARTICULARLY AUSTRIAN MARKETS; IMF LOANS TO RUSSIA; THE U.S. DEBT TO THE UNITED NATIONS; AND THE U.S. POSITION ON THE POTENTIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT.

"DER STANDARD (CIRCULATION: 100,000)," AS WELL AS THE LEADING CONSERVATIVE DAILY "DIE PRESSE" (CIRCULATION: 100,000) AND WIDELY-READ "KURIER" (CIRCULATION: 500,000) NOTED IN THEIR ARTICLES THAT STUART EIZENSTAT HAD PRAISED AUSTRIA FOR EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN SO FAR REGARDING THE RESTITUTION OF JEWISH PROPERTY AND THE QUEST FOR THE ORIGIN OF WORKS OF ART IN AUSTRIAN PUBLIC MUSEUMS. UNDERSECRETARY EIZENSTAT ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A PRESS CONFERENCE COORDINATED BY THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. AUSTRIAN TV AND RADIO ALSO COVERED THE VISIT. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS AND FULL TRANSLATIONS OF THE ARTICLES:

2. EXCERPTS FROM "DER STANDARD": HEADLINES: "AUSTRIA SHOULD REVEAL ALL FACTS" - "STUART EIZENSTAT IS A KEY FIGURE IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT. EDITOR ERIC FREY TALKED TO HIM ABOUT THE RUSSIAN CRISIS, THE UN CRIMINAL COURT, AND RESTITUTION FOR VICTIMS OF NATIONAL SOCIALISM."

TEXT: ASKED WHETHER THE MOST RECENT CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND RUSSIA WAS A POLITICAL BUT ECONOMICALLY UNREASONABLE ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE THE SITUATION, EIZENSTAT REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT THE CASE:

THE IMF'S DECISION IS A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN RUSSIA'S INTENTIONS, BUT THE KEY WILL BE HOW THEY PUT THEIR INTENTIONS INTO EFFECT. NO FOREIGN HELP, REGARDLESS OF HOW SUBSTANTIAL IT IS, CAN SOLVE RUSSIA'S RUBLE CRISIS, IF IT IS NOT SUPPLEMENTED BY INTERNAL STRUCTURAL MEASURES..."

TO THE QUESTION: "THE UNITED STATES IS PUSHING THE IMF TO EXTEND LOANS OF SEVERAL BILLIONS TO PROBLEM COUNTRIES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME, THE FUND IS RUNNING OUT OF MONEY, AS THE U.S. CONGRESS IS BLOCKING AN INCREASE OF THE IMF QUOTAS. DOESN'T THIS UNDERMINE YOUR CREDIBILITY?"

EIZENSTAT REPLY:

THE IMF IS AN AMERICAN CREATION WHICH HAS PROVED ITS VALUE PARTICULARLY DURING THE ASIAN CRISIS.... WE HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO INCREASE QUOTAS WITHIN THIS YEAR, BUT WE CANNOT BE CEZAIN.

ASKED ABOUT THE UNITED STATES' SLOWING DOWN OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, FOR

WHICH IT HAS BEEN CRITICIZED BY THE EUROPEANS,
EIZENSTAT REPLIED:

WE WERE FLEXIBLE WITH REGARD TO MANY ISSUES, BUT ONE
ISSUE IS DECISIVE FOR US: OUR NATIONAL COURT SYSTEM,
WHICH ALL THE WORLD RECOGNIZES TO BE OPEN AND OBJECTIVE,
MUST HAVE THE POSSIBILITY TO FIRST TRY PERSONS ACCUSED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT. THIS IS AN ISSUE OF
NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND MUST BE RESPECTED."

REFERRING TO THE NAZI GOLD ISSUE, "DER STANDARD" STATED,
"YOU HAVE PRONOUNCED YOURSELF AGAINST FURTHER BOYCOTTS
AGAINST SWITZERLAND, AND YET, SUCH MEASURES ARE BEING
TAKEN BY SOME STATES." STUART EIZENSTAT REPLIED:

"WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SANCTIONS THAT ARE INCREASINGLY
IMPOSED BY U.S. STATES AND MUNICIPALITIES... THE
SANCTIONS ARE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.... AND WILL IMPAIR
PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWITZERLAND. MOREOVER,
THEY ARE UNJUSTIFIED."

ASKED WHETHER AUSTRIA MET THE HIGH U.S. EXPECTATIONS
REGARDING EFFORTS FOR THE RESTITUTION OF JEWISH PROPERTY,
EIZENSTAT REPLIED:

"AUSTRIA MADE A VERY IMPORTANT START: A NATIONAL FUND
WAS ESTABLISHED; SENIOR POLITICIANS APOLOGIZED; MAY 5 WAS
MADE A COMMEMORATION DAY FOR NAZI VICTIMS; A COMMISSION
FOR ART AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS WAS CREATED; AND, LAST BUT
NOT LEAST, IT IS A FACT THAT AUSTRIA WAS THE FIRST
COUNTRY TO DONATE ITS SHARE IN THE GOLD OF THE TRIPARTITE
COMMISSION, WORTH MORE THAN EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS, TO A
FUND FOR NAZI VICTIMS. ALL OF THIS SET AN INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD...." HE ADDED THAT "THERE ARE OTHER OPEN
QUESTIONS: INSURANCE, AND THE DEMAND BY THE
'ISRAELITISCHE KULTUSGEMEINDE' (JEWISH COMMUNITY) FOR A
BROAD EXAMINATION OF THE ENTIRE STOLEN PROPERTY OF
HOLOCAUST VICTIMS. IT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT NOW FOR
AUSTRIA TO FULLY LAY OPEN ALL FACTS. I HOPE THAT THE
AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WILL COME TO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE
JEWISH COMMUNITY ON THIS ISSUE."

ASKED ABOUT HIS GOALS DURING THE AUSTRIAN EU PRESIDENCY,
EIZENSTAT SAID:

"IT IS IMPORTANT TO US THAT AUSTRIA, DESPITE ALL THE
ATTENTION THAT HAS TO BE GIVEN TO EU-INTERNAL AND
ENLARGEMENT ISSUES, MAKES TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS A
PRIORITY...." AND, "OUR MAIN GOAL IS TO START
NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT THE TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP....WE WANT TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE OVER BEEF
HORMONES AND BANANAS. WHAT IS MORE, WE HAVE CONSTANT
PROBLEMS WITH GENETICALLY MODIFIED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.
THERE IS A LOT OF WORK TO BE DONE IN THE AREAS OF
ELECTRONIC TRADE AND THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE
INTERNET, COMBATING CRIME AND FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE."

3. RETURN OF SCHIELE PAINTINGS/AUSTRIAN RESEARCH OF ORIGINS OF LOOTED ART: "DER STANDARD" ARTICLE ON PAGE 12 HAS THE TITLE: "APPEAL AGAINST RETURN OF PAINTINGS" - "GEHRER NEGOTIATES WITH UNDER SECRETARY ABOUT RETURNING THE SCHIELE PAINTINGS TO AUSTRIA."

TEXT: "ON MONDAY, NEW YORK DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROBERT MORGENTHAU APPEALED AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE NEW YORK SUPREME COURT TO LIFT THE SEIZURE OF THE TWO SCHIELE PAINTINGS OF THE LEOPOLD COLLECTION, AS HAD BEEN EXPECTED: THESE PAINTINGS WERE THE 'CORPUS DELICTI OF A CRIME,' AND THEREFORE THE GENERAL IMMUNITY OF WORKS OF ART DID NOT APPLY TO THEM. JUSTICE LAURA DRAGER HAD GRANTED A REQUEST BY THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, WHICH HAD DISPLAYED THE PAINTINGS. SHE EMPHASIZED THAT THE OWNERSHIP OF THE SCHIELE PAINTINGS 'WALLY' AND 'DEAD CITY III' HAD NOT BEEN CLARIFIED, BUT SHE BELIEVED THAT THE PAINTINGS, WHICH ARE STORED AT THE MOMA, DID NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO BE PHYSICALLY RETAINED IN NEW YORK.

ON TUESDAY EVENING, MINISTER FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS ELISABETH GEHRER MET UNDER SECRETARY STUART EIZENSTAT IN VIENNA. SHE HAD ANNOUNCED THAT SHE WOULD PUSH FOR A SPEEDY RETURN OF THE TWO PAINTINGS IN HER CONVERSATION WITH EIZENSTAT. GEHRER ALSO INFORMED THE UNDER SECRETARY ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE RESEARCH OF THE ORIGINS OF ART

TOKEN BY THE NAZIS. THERE WERE TWO GROUPS OF CASES THAT NEEDED A 'MORAL SETTLEMENT.' THE FIRST GROUP IS ART THAT WAS STOLEN BY NATIONAL SOCIALISTS AND NEVER RETURNED. THE SECOND GROUP IS ART THAT, AFTER RESTITUTION PROCEEDINGS WERE CONCLUDED, ENDED UP IN AUSTRIAN MUSEUMS DUE TO EXPORT PROHIBITION REGULATIONS. CURRENTLY, THE AUSTRIAN 'CONSTITUTIONAL SERVICE' AND THE FINANCE MINISTRY ARE WORKING TO CREATE A LEGAL BASIS FOR RETURNING THESE WORKS OF ART."

4. EIZENSTAT WOULD LIKE EXAMINATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED ART AS WELL. "DIE PRESSE" HEADLINES ON ITS FRONT PAGE, JULY 15, 1998: "EIZENSTAT: PRIVATELY OWNED ART ALSO TO BE EXAMINED."

TEXT: "U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE EIZENSTAT CONFIRMED THAT HIS TALKS IN VIENNA WOULD NOT FOCUS ONLY ON EXPROPRIATED JEWISH ART IN PUBLIC MUSEUMS."

"STUART EIZENSTAT CONFIRMED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, ON THE FRINGES OF THE TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE IN VIENNA, THAT HE WOULD NOT ONLY TALK TO MINISTER FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS GEHRER BUT ALSO WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 'ISRAELITISCHE KULTUSGEMEINDE' ABOUT RESTITUTION ISSUES. ACCORDING TO EIZENSTAT, NOT ONLY THOSE WORKS OF ART THAT ARE IN PUBLIC MUSEUMS SHOULD BE EXAMINED AS TO THEIR ORIGIN, BUT ALSO THOSE THAT ARE PRIVATELY OWNED. MOREOVER, THE INVESTIGATION SHOULD NOT ONLY DEAL WITH ART, BUT BE MORE BROADLY ORIENTED. GEHRER SAID THAT AN EXPERT GROUP DEFINED TWO CATEGORIES OF ART: WORKS THAT HAD BEEN SEIZED BY THE NAZIS AND GIVEN TO MUSEUMS; AND

ART THAT CAME INTO THE POSSESSION OF MUSEUMS AFTER RESTITUTION PROCEDURES. THE RESTITUTION HAS YET TO BE DECIDED UPON. IN NEW YORK, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY APPEALED AGAINST THE DECISION TO RETURN THE TWO SCHIELE PAINTINGS."

5. PRAISE FOR AUSTRIAN RESTITUTION EFFORTS. "DIE PRESSE" CONTINUES ON PAGE 6 WITH HEADLINES: "GEHRER WANTS COMMISSION FOR ARYANIZED PROPERTY"; "A COMMISSION SHOULD DEAL WITH THE RESTITUTION OF FORMER JEWISH PROPERTY. THIS HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY THE 'ISRAELITISCHE KULTUSGEMEINDE' AND IS SUPPORTED BY MINISTER GEHRER."

TEXT: "THE UNITED STATES IS VERY HAPPY WITH THE AUSTRIAN WAY OF HANDLING WHAT HAS COME TO BE KNOWN AS THE 'SCHIELE AFFAIR.' SUCH PRAISE WAS EXPRESSED YESTERDAY BY U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE STUART EIZENSTAT AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE FRINGES OF A U.S.-EU MEETING. HE ALSO PRAISED MORE THAN ONCE THE EFFORTS AUSTRIA HAD UNDERTAKEN SO FAR TO CLARIFY THE ORIGIN OF WORKS OF ART. LAST NIGHT, EIZENSTAT MET WITH MINISTER FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS GEHRER (OVP). ACCORDING TO GEHRER'S PRESS SPOKESPERSON HEIDI GLUECK, THE MINISTER PROMISED HER SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS OF THE 'ISRAELITISCHE KULTUSGEMEINDE' REGARDING A COMMISSION TO BE ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH THE RESTITUTION OF ARYANIZED PROPERTY.

THERE IS NOT YET A DECISION ON THIS COMMISSION. EARLIER ON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE 'KULTUSGEMEINDE,' ARIEL MUZICANT, HAD TALKED TO THE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES OF THE SPO, OVP, THE LIBERAL FORUM, AND THE GREENS, WHO WERE POSITIVE REGARDING THE CREATION OF A COMMISSION TO REGULATE WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN WITH WORKS OF ART THAT WERE FORMER JEWISH PROPERTY, AS WELL AS OTHER PROPERTY-RELATED ISSUES."

7. "DIE PRESSE" CONTINUES TO REPORT ON P.5 WITH THE HEADLINES: "TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE" -- "U.S. AND EU REPRESENTATIVES MET IN VIENNA FOR TALKS UNDER AUSTRIAN EU PRESIDENCY":

" 'THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.' U.S. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE STUART EIZENSTAT DECLARED ON TUESDAY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE U.S./EU TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE THAT

EU ENLARGEMENT WILL BRING ABOUT PROSPERITY AND STABILITY. APART FROM EU ENLARGEMENT, U.S. EXTRATERRITORIAL LEGISLATION (HELMS-BURTON AND D'AMATO LAWS), AS WELL AS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES, COOPERATION ON DRUGS AND COMBATING CRIME AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY WERE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN OFFICE, ALBERT ROHAN, WHO LED THE EU-SIDE OF THE TALKS, ANNOUNCED THAT A TROIKA MISSION WILL TRAVEL TO TEHRAN THIS WEEK."

8. "KURIER" HEADLINES (P.4): "PRAISE FOR NAZI-GOLD

POLICY" - "U.S. UNDER SECRETARY SAYS AUSTRIA IS ROLE MODEL." THE PAPER SUMMARIZES WHAT WAS SAID IN THE ABOVE ARTICLES AND POINTED TO THE U.S./EU SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON IN AUTUMN, IN THE PRESENCE OF U.S. PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON, EU COMMISSION PRESIDENT JACQUES SANTER AND AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR VIKTOR KLIMA.

END EXCERPTS AND TRANSLATIONS.

KOENGETER

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 6247

TOR: 980720060440 M3384088

DIST:

SIT: BANDLER BUDIG CROWLEY MCELDFOWNEY SAPIRO

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
LINE1: OAACZYUW RUEHFRA6146 2011436-CCCC--RHEHAAA.
LINE2: ZNY CCCCC ZZH
LINE3: O 201436Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
OSRI: RUEHFR
DTG: 201436Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7712
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0553
SUBJ: STATUS OF FRENCH DECISION ON GMO CORN

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 (b)
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By VL NARA, Date 11/26/2014
2016-0524-m (2.14)

CLASSIFIED BY DCM W.R. PEARSON FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

TEXT:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PARIS 016146

WHITE HOUSE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
STATE PASS USDA FOR U/S SCHUMACHER, DRAZEK, HATAMIYA, GALVIN,
SCHEIKH, THORN, AND CHESLEY
USTR FOR SCHER, NOVELLI AND MURPHY
STATE PASS FDA
GENEVA FOR USTR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 7/20/03
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EUN, FR, TBIO, KSCA
SUBJECT: STATUS OF FRENCH DECISION ON GMO CORN

CLASSIFIED BY DCM W.R. PEARSON FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

REF: (A) PARIS 14992; (B) PARIS 14833

1. ~~(C)~~ SUMMARY. THE FRENCH DECISION ON POLICY TOWARD GMOS, INCLUDING THE TWO GMO CORNS WHICH MUST BE APPROVED NOW FOR EXPORT THIS SUMMER, REMAINS UNDER CONSIDERATION WITHIN PRIME MINISTER JOSPIN'S OFFICE. HIS ADVISORS, WHO MET ON JULY 13, HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH A CONSENSUS ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO HIM ON AN OVERALL FRENCH POLICY TOWARD GMOS. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE NEXT STEP MAY BE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO RAISE THE ISSUE AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TOWARD THE END OF JULY. OUR BEST HOPE FOR OBTAINING A QUICK DECISION ON THE TWO GMO CORNS MAY BE TO ENCOURAGE THE GOF TO SEPARATE THE TIME-SENSITIVE ISSUE OF THE TWO CORNS FROM OVERALL FRENCH POLICY TOWARD GMOS, WHICH IS A POLITICIZED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE WITHIN FRANCE. OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE SUCH A SEPARATION OF THE TWO GMO CORNS FROM THE OVERALL FRENCH POLICY TOWARD GMOS HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED TO DATE, BUT HIGH-LEVEL PRESSURE FROM WASHINGTON COULD HELP. POSSIBLE POINTS TO USE IN SUCH A CALL ARE INCLUDED IN PARAGRAPH 5. END SUMMARY.

2. ~~(C)~~ THE DCM AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS PRIME MINISTER JOSPIN'S ADVISORS ON THE GMO CORNS. THE DCM UNDERLINED THE SENSITIVE POLITICAL NATURE OF THE ISSUE IN THE U.S. DIRECTLY TO JOSPIN'S DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR, JEAN-MAURICE RIPERT. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN IN FREQUENT TOUCH WITH CLAUDE CHEREAU, THE PM'S AGRICULTURAL ADVISER, SOPHIE BERANGER, FOOD SAFETY ADVISER TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND LAURANT ROY, TECHNICAL ADVISOR FOR THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT. HOWEVER, TO DATE THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE IS NOT ABLE TO GIVE US A DATE BY WHICH A DECISION WILL BE TAKEN.

3. ~~(C)~~ BERANGER TOLD US JULY 20 THAT THE JULY 13 MEETING OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S TECHNICAL ADVISERS FAILED TO PRODUCE A CONSENSUS ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRIME MINISTER. WE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN TOLD THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD BE PRESENTED TO JOSPIN SOON, BUT BERANGER NOW SAYS THAT JOSPIN MAY WISH TO DISCUSS GMO POLICY AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TOWARD THE END OF JULY. (COMMENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT RESISTANCE FROM THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT IS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR A LACK OF CONSENSUS, BUT WE WERE NOT GIVEN FULL DETAILS. END COMMENT.) ROY TOLD US TODAY THAT SOME OF THE MOST URGENT DECISIONS COULD BE TAKEN BY THE END OF JULY.

4. ~~(C)~~ ACCORDING TO PM AG ADVISER CHEREAU, THE TECHNICAL ADVISERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FRANCE'S FUTURE GMO POKCIES WERE EXPECTED TO BE MOSTLY IN LINE WITH THE LE DEAUT REPORT (REF B), WHICH WOULD INDICATE APPROVAL FOR THE GMO CORNS. BEFORE THE JULY 13 MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORS, WE WERE TOLD THAT THE ISSUE OF GMO VARIETIES CONTAINING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT MARKERS WAS ESPECIALLY CONTENTIOUS AND THAT THERE WAS DIFFICULTY FOR RAPESEED/CANOLA BECAUSE OF HERBICIDE RESISTANCE ISSUES. ROY ADDED TODAY THAT LABELING AND TRACEABILITY OF GMO'S WERE ALSO BEING DEBATED. CHEREAU EXPECTED THE ADVISERS' RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE TWO PENDING CORN VARIETIES. IT IS NOT CLEAR IF THE FAILURE TO REACH A CONSENSUS AT JULY 13 THE MEETING INVOLVES ANY ISSUE INVOLVED WITH THE CORN VARIETIES. HOWEVER, IN THE ABSENCE OF A CONSENSUS ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRIME MINISTER, THE LIKELIHOOD OF A DECISION IN TIME FOR U.S. CORN SALES TO SPAIN IS DIMINISHING EACH DAY.

5. POSSIBLE POINTS TO USE WITH PRIME MINISTER JOSPIN

-- WE UNDERSTAND THE POLITICAL SENSITIVITY OF THE GMO ISSUE IN FRANCE.

-- HOWEVER, AS YOU KNOW FROM YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON IN JUNE, THE ISSUE OF CORN SALES TO SPAIN IS VERY IMPORTANT IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THE LACK OF FRENCH APPROVAL OF THE TWO GMO CORNS AT ISSUE ARE BLOCKING THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH SALES.

-- FRENCH APPROVAL OF THE TWO GMO CORNS IS URGENTLY REQUIRED NOW TO PERMIT EXPORTS OF U.S. CORN THIS SUMMER.

-- WE UNDERSTAND THAT APPROVAL OF THE TWO GMO CORNS IN QUESTION DOES NOT INVOLVE SOME OF THE ISSUES WHICH ARE SENSITIVE FOR FRENCH POLICY TOWARD GMOS IN GENERAL, SUCH AS ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT MARKERS AND VARIETIES WHICH MIGHT SPREAD IN THE WILD.

-- IN VIEW OF THE URGENT NEED FOR A DECISION NOW ON THE TWO GMO CORNS, FRANCE COULD PROVIDE APPROVAL FOR THE CORNS WITHOUT CURTAILING THE DISCUSSION OF ITS OVERALL POLICY TOWARD GMOS IN GENERAL.

PEARSON

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 6146

TOR: 980720104818 M3384477

DIST:

SIT: JORDAN

SIT: NSC

<^DIST>

SIT: MCELLOWNEY

<^DIST>

SIT: DAVIDSON

<^DIST>

SIT: BANDLER NORRIS SAUNDERS

PRT: FUERTH

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE

CLASS: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LINE1: RAACZYUW RUEHMDA7739 2100850-CCCC--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNY CCCCC ZZH (CCY ADX59556D MSI2855)

LINE3: R 290850Z JUL 98

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

OSRI: RUEHMD

DTG: 290850Z JUL 98

ORIG: AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1274
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS

INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE

SUBJ: GMO IMPASSE: FRANCE CONTINUES TO BENEFIT FROM
INCREASED CORN SALES TO SPAIN

TEXT:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MADRID 007739

2ND CORRECTED COPY ((PASSING INSTRUCTIONS))

STATE PAS USDA FAS

STATE PASS STR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2/28/08

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EUN, SP

SUBJECT: GMO IMPASSE: FRANCE CONTINUES TO BENEFIT FROM
INCREASED CORN SALES TO SPAIN

1. (C) CLASSIFIED BY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR, STEPHEN V. NOBLE,
FOR REASONS
1.5 (B) AND (D)

2. ~~(S)~~ MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EU AGRICULTURAL ISSUES CLETO SANCHEZ TOLD ECONOFF ON JULY 27 THAT IN THE CURRENT IMPASSE WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT CONCERNING APPROVAL FOR THE SALE OF GMO CORN VARIETIES, THE GOS WAS FULLY BEHIND THE US ON THIS ISSUE. HE NOTED REMARKS MADE BY THE GOS IN THE JULY 17 COREPER MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT AS WELL AS REMARKS BY AGMINISTER LOYOLA DE PALACIOS AT THE JULY 20 AGRICULTURE COUNCIL. IN COREPER, THE SPANISH CITED THE NEGATIVE IMPACT THAT THE FRENCH DELAY IN GRANTING APPROVAL FOR GMO CORN IMPORTS WAS HAVING ON U.S.-EU TRADE RELATIONS IN GENERAL, ON THE GRAIN MARKETS IN SPAIN AND ON SPANISH-U.S. TRADE&IN CEREALS. THE SPANISH MADE CLEAR THAT THEY EXPECTED FRENCH APPROVAL BY THE END OF JULY AT THE LATEST. THE SAME MESSAGE WAS REPEATED THREE DAYS LATER BY DE PALACIOS WHO EXPRESSLY OBJECTED TO "INCOMPREHENSIBLE" FRENCH DELAYS.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 (b)
White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006
By RL NARA, Date 11/26/2014
216-0529-M (2.20)

3. ~~(C)~~ SANCHEZ ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE PRINCIPAL EXPLANATION FOR FRENCH FOOT-DRAGGING, GOF CONCERNS ABOUT CONSUMER PUBLIC REACTION TO THE SALE OF GMO CORN VARIETIES IN EUROPE. HOWEVER, HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT FRENCH FARMERS ARE MEETING THE GAP IN SUPPLY AND SELLING AN ADDITIONAL 300,000 TONS OF CORN TO SPAIN AT A SLIGHTLY HIGHER PRICE THAT SPANISH PURCHASERS WOULD HAVE BOUGHT IT FROM U.S. SUPPLIERS. (NOTE: FRANCE IS THE MAJOR EU SUPPLIER OF CORN TO SPAIN, WHILE THE U.S. IS THE PRINCIPAL NON-EU SUPPLIER, WITH THE MARKET DIVIDED ABOUT EQUALLY BETWEEN FRANCE AND OTHER, NON-EU COUNTRIES. SPAIN PRODUCES APPROXIMATELY 4.3 MILLION TONS OF CORN EACH YEAR, BUT IMPORTS 2.8 TO 3 MILLION ADDITIONAL TONS TO MEET DOMESTIC DEMAND.)

4. ~~(C)~~ OUR MFA CONTACT SPECULATED THAT FRENCH AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS MIGHT VERY WELL PLAY A ROLE IN FRENCH FOOT-DRAGGING AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL ON APPROVAL OF THE NEW CORN VARIETIES. AS HE POINTED OUT, FRENCH FARMERS AND GRAIN EXPORTERS HAVE CLEARLY BENEFITED FROM THE SITUATION AND STAND TO BENEFIT EVEN MORE IF IT IS PROLONGED UNTIL SO LATE IN THE SEASON (THE POINT WHEN SPANISH CROPS ARE ABOUT TO BE HARVESTED AND COME ON MARKET) AS TO GUARANTEE A HIGHER THAN NORMAL LEVEL OF SALES FROM FRANCE.

WALSH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7739

TOR: 980730041014 M3399257

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHFRA7062 2120731-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 310731Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
OSRI: RUEHFR
DTG: 310731Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7971
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0575
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 6557
SUBJ: GOF DECISION ON GMO'S
TEXT:
UNCLAS PARIS 017062

USDA FOR OSEC FOR DRAZEK, UNDER SECRETARY
SCHUMACHER; FAS FOR OA/LHATAMIYA/TGALVIN;
ITP/DA/PSHEIKH; ITP/WEIAD/CTHORN/MCHESLEY;
OFSTS/LHARBERT; CMP/DA/JPARKER;
CMP/G&F/RIEMENSCHNEIDER; FAA/PLETARTE; APHIS/
ADMINISTRATOR

STATE PASS USTR FOR SCHER AND MURPHY
STATE PASS FDA
GENEVA FOR USTR, ALSO AGRICULTURE
EU POSTS PASS AGCOUNSELOR
CONGEN MILAN PAaS ATO
BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEU

UNCLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TBIO, KSCA, EUN, FR
SUBJECT: GOF DECISION ON GMO'S
REF: PARIS 16947

1. AS REPORTED REFTTEL OF JULY 29, 1998, THE
FRENCH INTER-MINISTERIAL REACHED DECISIONS ON
GMO'S TODAY, JULY 30, 1998. IN A PRESS RELUSE
FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, THE GOF AGREED
TO AUTHORIZE THE PENDING GMO CORNS (AGREVO TER25
AND MONSANTO MON810) "WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS."
NOTE: THE COMMUNIQUE DOES NOT GIVE ANY SPECIFIC
INDICATION OF WHAT THE TIME PERIE MIGHT BE. END
NOTE.

2. THE GOF DECIDED A TWO-YEAR MORATORIUM ON GM
RAPESEED AND OTHER PLANTS WHICH CAN CROSS BREED

WITH OTHER SPECIES IN THE ENVIRONMENT. FOR CORN, A SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS WILL BE DONE WITH PRECAUTION ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

3. THE GOF DID NOT IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON GMO'S CONTAINING AN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENE. HOWEVER, IT WILL "INCREASE RESEARCH EFFORTS TO DEVELOP TECHNIQUES OTHER THAN THOSE WHICH REQUIRE AN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENE." BERNARD KOUCHNER, JUNIOR MINISTER FOR HEALTH, SET UP A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY ALL THE ISSUES LINKED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESISTANCE TO ANTIBIOTICS.

4. THE GOF DECIDED TO REINFORCE THE BIOVIGILANCE SYSTEM AND TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BIOVIGILANCE SYSTEM TO ALL PRODUCERS OF TRANSGENIC CROPS. THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEASURE IS TO MONITOR THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE CULTIVATION OF GMO'S.

5. ON CONSUMER INFORMATION, THE GOF ANNOUNCED THAT THE TRACEABILITY OF TRANSGENIC CROPS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN FRENCH PRODUCTION SECTORS, AND PROPOSED BY FRANCE TO OTHER NATIONS.

6. FINALLY, THE GOF DECIDED TO REFORM THE ORGANIZATION OF EXPERTS WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF ASSESSING GMO'S IN FRANCE. THE AIM OF THE REFORM WILL BE TO INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY OF THE WORK OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES, AND TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL AND CONTINUOUS INFORMATION TO AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND CONSUMERS.

7. A COPY OF THE PRESS RELEASE (IN FRENCH) HAS BEEN FAXED TO CRAIG THORN, USDA/FAS/ITP. POST WILL CONTINUE TO CLOSELY MONITOR THE FINAL PHASES OF COMPLETE APPROVAL AND REPORT ON ALL DEVELOPMENTS SOONEST.
PEARSON

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7062

TOR: 980731035440 M3400957

DIST:

SIT: MCELLOWNEY

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHFRA7245 2121612-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 311612Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
OSRI: RUEHFR
DTG: 311612Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8036
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0578
SUBJ: MORE ON FRENCH GMO CORN APPROVAL
TEXT:
UNCLAS PARIS 017245

USDA FOR O/SEC FOR GLICKMAN AND DRAZEK; U/S FOR
SCHUMACHER; FAS FOR OA/LHATAMIYA/TGALVIN;
ITP/DA/PSHEIKH; ITP/WEIAD/CTHORN/MCHESLEY;
OFSTS/LHARBERT; CMP/DA/JPARKER; FAA/SEBRANEK;
APHIS/OA/CREED; FSIS/JPRUCHA

STATE PASS USTR
STATE PASS FDA
GENEVA FOR USTR, ALSO AGRICULTURE
EU POSTS PASS AGCOUNSELOR
CONGEN MILAN PASS ATO
BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEU

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EUN, FR
SUBJECT: MORE ON FRENCH GMO CORN APPROVAL

REF: (A) PARIS 017062; (B) PARIS 014833

1. THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE. SEE PARAGRAPH 5 FOR ACTION REQUEST.

2. AS REPORTED REFTTEL A, ON JULY 30, THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE (GOF) APPROVED THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE GMO CORN VARIETIES AGREVO TER 25 AND MONSANTO MON810 #WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS." WHILE WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO TIE DOWN THE EXACT DATE, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT AUTHORIZATION WILL BE FULLY GRANTED ONCE ALL DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN SIGNED.

3. THE DOCUMENTS COULD POSSIBLY BE SIGNED EARLY NEXT WEEK AFTER MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE LOUIS LE PENSEC'S RETURN TO PARIS ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, FROM CHINA. AUTHORIZATION OF THESE TWO CORN

VARIETIES IS IN ADDITION TO THE NOVARTIS BT CORN WHICH WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE JOSPIN GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER.

4. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING, HELD AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, INCLUDED BERNARD KOUCHNER, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH, CLAUDE ALLEGRE, MINISTER OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND TECHNOLOGY, DOMINIQUE VOYNET, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, DOMINIQUE STRAUSS-KAHN, MINISTER OF ECONOMY, FINANCE AND INDUSTRY AND PIERRE MOSCOVICI, MINISTER OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. AGRICULTURE MINISTER LE PENSEC WAS ABSENT DUE TO HIS FOREIGN TRAVEL.

5. IN REVIEWING THE GMO DOSSIER, THE GOF BASJD ITS FINAL DECISION ON THE OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS OF JEAN-YVES LE DEAUT'S JUNE 30, 1998 PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE D CONSENSUS (REF B). HOWEVER, THE GOF DID NOT FOLLOW LE DEAUT'S RECOMMENDATION TO BAN GMO'S CONTAINING AN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE GENE. THIS IS A MAJOR STEP FOR APPROVAL OF GMO PRODUCTS IN THE PIPELINE, ESPECIALLY, FOR EXAMPLE, FOR DEKALB'S CORN. THE GOF DID DECIDE, HOWEVER, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP (SEE PARA 3, REFTTEL A) UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HEALTH KOUCHNER TO EXAMINE IN GREATER DETAIL THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE. POST HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KOUCHNER'S OFFICE TO OBTAIN MORE DETAILS ON THE PROPOSED WORKING GROUP. WITH WASHINGTON APPROVAL, POST WOULD LIKE TO OFFER TO THE WORKING GROUP A SCIENTIFIC DIALOGUE INCLUDING U.S. VIEWS ON THE ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE QUESTION.

6. THE GOF ALSO DID NOT SPECIFY A LABELING POLICY FOR FOODSTUFFS DERIVED FROM GMO'S, WHICH WAS VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED IN THE LE DEAUT'S REPORT. HOWEVER, FRANCE, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER EU MEMBER STATES, MUST IMPLEMENT THE EU'S OVERALL GMO LABELING POLICY ADOPTED ON MAY 26, 1998.

7. WHILE THE INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY ALL KEY AGENCIES CONCERNED IN REACHING THIS DECISION, FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON BIOTECHNOLOGY CAN BE EXPECTED IN THE FALL, PARTICULARLY DURING THE PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS OF THE FRENCH LOI D'ORIENTATION (FARM BILL) IN OCTOBER.

8. POST WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO MONITORING THE FINAL STAGES OF THE APPROVAL PROCESS.
PEARSON

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7245

TOR: 980731123904 M3401789

DIST:

SIT: BANDLER BROWN BUTLER DAVIDSON HAINES LEE MCELLOWNEY SAPIRO

SIT: NSC

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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009. cable	Re: [GMO Issue] (4 pages)	07/31/1998	P1/b(1)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997 - Dec 1998 ([GMO...])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/02/1998 - 07/31/1998]

2013-0836-F
ke3011

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]