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DECLASSIFIED
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By MMK NLDDE Date 11/28/11

OUTGOING MESSAGE  
(By Special Means)

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PRS No. 1690

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TOR \_\_\_\_\_

TO: CJCS

PERSONAL EYES ONLY FOR GEN LEMNITZER FROM GEN NORSTAD.

I have just been advised that General Kammhuber, Chief of Staff of the German Air Force, will begin his terminal leave on the 15th of August and retire from the service a month later. For the last two years the German authorities from time to time have expressed some concern over Kammhuber and some of his utterances, and this fact, together with his age, makes this move not an unexpected one. However, there is reason to believe that an incident that took place here during SHAPEX is the precipitating cause.

At that time, Kammhuber, in speaking to the assembled German officers of the SHAPE Staff, referred to the fact that the Allies continued to distrust the Germans and that, as a consequence, it was absolutely essential that Germany direct more of her thinking toward national military forces, including a German-controlled nuclear deterrent. The German officers apparently were shocked by the substance of his talk and the vehemence with which he presented it. Although I was informed of the event at the time, I am sure that the report to Bonn was in even stronger terms than were used in telling me of the meeting.

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Major General Werner Panitzki, who is well known in American military circles, is scheduled to replace Kammhuber.

Because of the source and delicacy of this information, please keep it as restricted as possible.

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