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Pol 15-1 BRANDT'S

TELEGRAM

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7 MAY 74
1733

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PFOR, GE, GW

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GDR ON BRANDT'S RESIGNATION

ACTION

~~KM~~ SecState WASHDC

INFO

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1. GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman made first official East German statement on Brandt resignation, May 7. Mission translation of Statement as carried East German news agency ADN is as follows:

the

"The Party and State leadership of/GDR considers the present occurrences in the Federal Republic of Germany to be strictly in the domestic domain of the FRG.]

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CLEARANCES:

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Leading representatives of the GDR have again ~~expressed their~~ expressed their appreciation for the realistic impulses of Willy Brandt's foreign policy, which have resulted in great forward steps for detente in Europe, including the normalization of relations between ~~the~~ the GDR and the FRG. In this connection (the GDR) expects that the new government of the FRG also will make a constructive contribution toward the realization of ^{the} already concluded system of treaties and in that manner promote peace and security in Europe."

2. COMMENT: While it generally takes GDR few days to get all its ducks in row on such political issues, unmistakable impression in East Berlin is that GDR deeply troubled and confused by Brandt's resignation, particularly in that it had direct hand via Guillane affair ⁱⁿ putting chancellor in ~~pre~~ predicament in first place. Main GDR problem now is to assure that Brandt's departure not deal crippling blow to inner-German detente and to try to deflect ~~any possible~~ onus for his demise away from itself and on to domestic FRG political and economic difficulties.

KLEIN

