

NSA Global SIGINT Highlights

NSA Intercepts German Foreign Minister Steinmeier After Meeting US Secretary of State Rice Over CIA Renditions

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Title: New German Foreign Minister Pleased He Managed to Avoid CIA

Renditions on First Official Washington Visit

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Description

This is a Top Secret US National Security Agency (NSA) report derived from intelligence intercepts of German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier after his official visit to Washington DC, shortly after taking office. Steinmeier is reported to have been relieved to receive no definitive response from U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on questions on illicit CIA rendition flights through Germany to secret prisons (black sites) that were, and still are, causing controversy.



(TS//SI//NF) New German Foreign Minister Pleased With First Official Visit to Washington

(TS//SI//NF) Frank-Walter Steinmeier seemed pleased on 29 November with the results of his first visit to Washington as the new German Foreign Minister. Steinmeier described the mood during his talks with U.S. officials as very good, but feared that the most difficult part was still ahead. He seemed relieved that he had not received any definitive response from the U.S. Secretary of State regarding press reports of CIA flights through Germany to secret prisons in eastern Europe allegedly used for interrogating terrorism suspects. Steinmeier remarked that Washington is placing great hope in his country's new government. In this connection, he is looking for areas where bilateral cooperation can be strengthened and is considering the southern Caucasus as one possible area.

Unconventional

German diplomatic

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