

Schmidt takes firm line with kidnapers

By PAUL HOFFMAN

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BONN — Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, addressing the federal parliament Thursday, told the anarchist kidnapers who have been holding an industrial leader for 10 days: "End your insane undertaking."

The chancellor, who looked fatigued and grave, said the government will, "with steadfastness and patience," continue indirect contacts with the abductors of Hanns-Martin Schleyer, president of the West German Employers Association and Federation of Industry.

The government "does not want a military solution" and is seeking to avoid further bloodshed, Schmidt declared. He said the kidnapers' notion that they are waging a war is "absurd."

The chancellor gazed straight into the television cameras that were transmitting his speech live and said, as if he had the terrorists before him: "You are mistaken — we will not permit ourselves to be infected by your insanity. You believe yourselves to be a selected, small elite, chosen to liberate the masses. You are mistaken — the masses stand against you."