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NATO
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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 March, 1982

NATO Summit

Thank you for your letter of 22 March.

The Prime Minister is content with the outline programme for the Summit. She considers that Defence Ministers should be invited to attend. She also thinks that we should fall in with German views about limiting the size of delegations at the working session of the Summit (a maximum of two or three officials in addition to Ministers).

Finally, Mr. Thatcher will not accompany the Prime Minister on this visit.

A. J. COLES

F. N. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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PRIME MINISTER

Mrs
cc. Miss Stephens

NATO SUMMIT

The attached letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office describes the latest state of German thinking on the arrangements for the Summit.

You will note that the first event they envisage is a reception/dinner on the evening of 9 June. On present plans President Reagan will have lunched with you that day and will leave No. 10 at about 2.30 p.m. You would have to leave for Bonn fairly soon after that.

Are you generally content with the outline arrangements?

Agree that Defence Ministers should be invited to attend?

Agree that we should fall in with German views about limiting the size of delegations at the working session of the Summit (a maximum of two or three officials in addition to Ministers)?

Will Mr. Thatcher accompany you (I cannot imagine that it will be very enjoyable for him to do so, since you will be involved in Summit discussions for practically the whole of the visit)?

No
*Mr. Reagan may want
to come here to lunch
on Tuesday*

A.J.C.

23 March, 1982

cc Miss Stephens



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 March 1982

Dear John,

NATO Summit

The Germans are pressing ahead with work on the organisational side of the summit. The Prime Minister may wish to be aware of their current proposals, which are set out in the enclosed note circulated by the German Permanent Representative to NATO to his colleagues.

The note confirms that Bonn is to be the venue, and sets out an outline programme including the following events:

- (i) Reception/dinner on the evening of 9 June for Heads of State/Government, Foreign Ministers, etc;
- (ii) Opening session of summit on morning of 10 June in plenary room of the Bundestag, followed by;
- (iii) Working session in NATO room of the Federal Chancellory;
- (iv) Separate lunches for Heads of State/Government and Foreign Ministers;
- (v) Resumption of working session in the afternoon.

The Germans propose that the number of participants at the working session of the summit should be limited to a maximum of two plus three (ie, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister plus three officials). This is partly because of the restricted size of the room being made available for the meeting, but it is also designed to promote the maximum informality so that views can be exchanged in a relatively intimate atmosphere. May we assume that the Prime Minister is content with this, subject to her views on paragraph 3 below?

/The German



The German proposals on participation at the summit raise one point on which I should be grateful if you could seek the Prime Minister's views. David Omand, to whom I am copying this letter, may also wish, subject to your views, to consult Mr Nott. It appears that the Germans have not so far envisaged that Defence Ministers will attend the summit. However, we understand that this may only be the view of the German Foreign Ministry; it does not appear to be shared by Herr Apel or the Federal Ministry of Defence. There are also signs that there may be more than one view in Washington on this point. The precedents are in fact mixed. Defence Ministers attended the Washington summit in 1978 (when a number of specifically defence issues was on the agenda) but not the London summit in 1977. It is too early to be certain about the nature of the agenda for this year's summit, but our general ideas on the summit as approved by Ministers do of course include both political and defence elements. It would be helpful to have guidance on this point fairly soon for planning purposes.

| It would also be useful to know in due course whether
| Mr Thatcher is likely to accompany the Prime Minister.

Yours ever
John Holmes
*for (F N Richards)
Private Secretary*

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

German Delegation

Dr. Hans-Georg Wieck
Botschafter
Ständiger Vertreter im Nordatlantikrat

Subject: NATO Summit Meeting in

Deutsche NATO-Vorstellung

Brüssel

1. I should like to inform the Council that the organizational outlines of the Bonn summit meeting are now beginning to emerge. Details on which the Council has to decide can, of course, only be planned subject to Council approval.
2. We maintain that Bonn should be the meeting place. While other somewhat more remote places have also been considered, they have finally been rejected, mainly for logistical and security reasons.
3. The opening session is planned to be held in the morning of 10 June 1982 in the plenary room of the German Bundestag. As is customary on these occasions, we assume that the Federal Chancellor, the Honorary President and the Secretary-General will each make a short ten-minute speech.
4. The working sessions will take place in the so-called NATO Room of the Federal Chancellery, about 200 m distant from the Bundestag building. The number of participants will have to be restricted for reasons of space. We suggest - also for other reasons - that the number of participants be limited to 2 + 2 or a maximum of 2 + 3 during the restricted session and that a plenary session be dispensed with. This is the only way in which we believe that a broad and intensive exchange of opinions can be ensured in a relatively intimate atmosphere.
5. On this background and in view of the fact that the regular meeting of the North Atlantic Council at Ministerial Level will have taken place in Luxembourg only three weeks before the summit meeting, we consider that it will be advisable to keep the size of delegations to the summit meeting as small as possible. I should be grateful, therefore, if I could be informed as soon as possible through the Delegation



Secretaries of the probable size of their countries' delegations to the summit meeting, as far as this has not yet been done. Those delegations which have already reserved hotel space in Bonn are kindly asked to inform us accordingly so as to enable us to coordinate matters. We would also be glad to receive estimates of the number of journalists who are to be expected from the various capitals.

6. A luncheon for Heads of State and of Government is planned for 10 June 1982. A separate luncheon will be given at the same time for Foreign Ministers. Both will take place in the vicinity of the Federal Chancellery.
7. We assume that an afternoon meeting will be held on 10 June so as to have enough time for a substantive discussion.
8. It will be decided later where and in which way social events will take place in connection with the summit meeting. It can be assumed, however, that a reception/dinner will be organized for Heads of State or Government, Foreign Ministers, Secretary General, Permanent Representatives and possibly other high ranking officials on the evening of June 9. A ladies' Programme is also planned but will probably have to be limited to the wives of senior delegation members. We would also be grateful for information in this context.
9. The Secretary General's press reception on the eve of the meeting and the joint press conference at the end of the meeting could take place in the Beethoven Hall or the Municipal Theatre if the number of interested journalists warrants this.
10. As is customary on these occasions, my delegation will cooperate with the International Staff to draw up a Document in which participants will be informed in time of the organizational details of the summit meeting. My delegation is in constant touch with the Executive Secretariat.
11. For security reasons, we would like to ask that all information on the place of the meeting and the organizational details be treated as confidential.

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