

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 5, 1978

Dear Helmut,

I am very much looking forward to meeting with you in Bonn both for our own meetings and for the Economic Summit.

In my view, one of the most important issues on our Summit agenda is the multilateral trade negotiations. If a good trade package is agreed beforehand at Geneva, so that we can endorse it at the Summit, this will do much to ensure a successful outcome to our meeting.

I was distressed to learn that the recent meeting of the Council of Ministers did not provide more positive guidance on the key issues that must be resolved before we can have such a trade package. I understand that Germany has strongly supported efforts by the Commission to find mutually acceptable solutions. I hope that you will be able to convince your colleagues that the Community must be sufficiently flexible to negotiate a mutually satisfactory multilateral trade agreement. I hope that your ministers and senior trade officials will make similar efforts with their colleagues.

I have instructed Bob Strauss to meet the Commission half way. But this requires reciprocity. I fear that if we don't get progress soon the objectives that you and I share will be endangered.

Sincerely,

His Excellency
Helmut Schmidt
Chancellor of the
Federal Republic of Germany
Bonn

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