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State Visit by President von
Weizsacker.

GERMANY

February 1986.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office document

Reference: FCO Dispatch DD 1986/240
Description: President Richard Von Weizsacker
Date: 20 May 1986

The above FCO documents, which were enclosed on this file have been removed and destroyed.

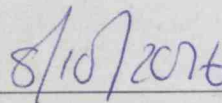
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Signed



PREM Records Team

Date





file

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

1 October 1990

VISIT TO UK BY PRESIDENT VON WEIZSACKER

Thank you for your letter of 28 September about the change of plans for President von Weizsacker's visit on 14 November. Charles Powell has asked me to reply in his absence with the Prime Minister in New York.

I am afraid that the Prime Minister would not be free to see the President during the evening of 14 November.

PATRICIA A. PARKIN

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 September 1990

AK

Dear Charles,

*Amadeo
is this feasible?
AM*

Visit to UK by President von Weizsacker:
14 November 1990

In your letter of 24 August you said the Prime Minister would be able to see President von Weizsacker at 0930 on Wednesday 14 November. This was subsequently changed to 1000.

The President's Office have now told us that his plans have been changed and that he will need to fly directly to Coventry. He would be available after the Commemoration ceremony. We understand that the ceremony will not finish before about 1630. A meeting with the Prime Minister would not therefore be possible much before 1900. Would this be possible? If the Prime Minister were free we wonder if she would consider offering a dinner for the President. The President will not now be seeing HM The Queen, who will be out of London, and there is obvious significance in the first visit to the UK of the Head of the unified Germany.

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Germany: Visits of

Weizacker

Feb 86



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me for
all

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

24 August 1990

VISIT TO UK BY PRESIDENT VON WEIZSAECKER

Thank you for your letter of 23 August about the visit by President von Weizsaecker on 14 November. The Prime Minister would be able to see him at 0930 that day, but not before.

C. D. POWELL

Simon Gass, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

Sept



CAP

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

0930 on
14 NOV.

23 August 1990

Dear Charles,

*AP 24/8 Mercedes
Can this be done?
top. [initials]*

Visit to UK by President von Weizsaecker:
14 November 1990

In your letter of 19 July you said the Prime Minister would be happy to see President von Weizsaecker when he visits the UK to attend a service marking the Fiftieth Anniversary of the bombing of Coventry on 14 November - but not if it turned out to be the day of the State Opening of Parliament.

We now understand that the State Opening will take place on 7 November. The President's Office have told us that he can stay only for the day of 14 November. A meeting before 10 am would allow the President to reach Coventry in time for the events planned there. Would the Prime Minister be able to see him at about 9.00 am? If so, we shall put the proposal to the Germans.

Jawson
[Signature]

(S L Gass)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

GERMANY Feb '86
visits & Weizacker.

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c/c

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

19 July 1990

VISIT OF PRESIDENT VON WEIZSACKER

Thank you for your letter of 18 July about President von Weizsacker's visit. I am sure the Prime Minister would in principle be happy to see him, but not if 14 November turns out to be the day of the State Opening. We should therefore leave it vague for the time being, explaining the reason to the Germans.

(C. D. POWELL)

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

RESTRICTED

ls



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

RESTRICTED

18 July 1990

Rargent
Can we do this?
agg

Dear Charles,

Visit to UK by President von Weizsäcker
14 November 1990

President von Weizsäcker will be attending a commemoration at Coventry Cathedral of the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Coventry on Wednesday 14 November: HM The Queen Mother will also attend. The Foreign Secretary believes it would be worth considering a call on the Prime Minister, the State Opening of Parliament permitting.

This is one of the 2 dates we are holding for the State Opening

The President is an important figure for the German people (both West and East) and a good friend of Britain. He is likely to be the first President of a united Germany. The visit, which will take place in the first few weeks before the achievement of Germany unity, will give us an opportunity to strengthen our relationship both with Germany and with von Weizsäcker personally. He paid a successful state visit in 1986 and a shorter visit in 1988.

We are also approaching the Palace with a recommendation that an audience with The Queen be arranged if possible nearer the time.

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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BU



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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17 June 1988

Fine
200 22/6

Dear Charles,

Visit of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany,
23 June

President von Weizsäcker will call on the Prime Minister at 1700 on Thursday 23 June. He will be unaccompanied. He is visiting Britain to receive a degree by diploma (similar to an honorary degree) at Oxford on 22 June. On 23 June he will lunch with HM The Queen, and will later receive the Foreign Secretary.

President von Weizsäcker (on whom I enclose a personality note) is almost universally respected in the Federal Republic, and his re-election in 1989 is already assured. He has long had close connections with this country, including through the annual Königswinter conferences and his rôle as Governing Mayor of Berlin. He is likely to want to discuss Anglo-German relations, European integration, security cooperation, and US/Soviet policies on arms control.

We recommend that the Prime Minister take this opportunity to welcome the excellent work of the German police during the European football championships and their close cooperation with the British agencies involved, and to express her contempt for the appalling behaviour of some English fans.

Anglo-German Relations

President von Weizsäcker may wish to assess how we in Britain currently view our relations with the Germans, after differences earlier this year on the CAP and SNF. We recommend that the Prime Minister tell him that:-

- she is conscious of the need to get across to public opinion in Britain and Germany the fundamental importance of our relationship;
- she realises the need to keep in particularly close contact in a period when there will be a change of administration in the US, and continuing uncertainties in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe;

/- she will

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- she will be seeing Chancellor Kohl three times in three weeks (Toronto, Hanover, Chequers), and other Ministerial contacts are frequent and extensive;
- non-governmental contacts, such as the Königswinter Conference (with which Weizäcker has long been personally involved), also play an important part.

EC issues

The Prime Minister could say that the Brussels Agreement in February marked a turning point in the Community's handling of budget/agricultural issues. We cannot now draw a line and say that the problem has been solved: further developments, especially in biotechnology, will increase yields. But we have established the principle of a return to a market-oriented CAP and a mechanism to achieve it. We must aim to make that mechanism work on a continuing basis.

We agree with the German Government that Hanover should focus on the Single Market and should set priorities for the next eighteen months. Our priorities are:

- financial services such as banking, securities and life insurance;
- mutual recognition of testing and certification procedures and further agreement covering product standards;
- further opening up of public purchasing in member states and measures to ensure compliance;
- further liberalisation of transport by road, sea and air;
- opening up the market in telecommunications.

If President von Weizsäcker mentions monetary cooperation, the Prime Minister could stress the importance of the ECOFIN decision on 13 June on the full liberalisation of capital movements. That must be followed by complete abolition of exchange controls. We want also to:

- remove obstacles which deter Member States from holding other Community currencies in their reserves;
- support moves to encourage Member States to maintain greater holdings of private ecus in their official reserve currencies;

/- encourage

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- encourage greater use of the ecu as an intervention currency;
- encourage greater use of the private ecu by business.

Wider issues, such as a European Central Bank, are for a much longer perspective, as Governor Pöhl has pointed out. The issues which need following up are practical questions for practitioners such as Central Bank Governors and Finance Ministers.

If the President talks of wider or more radical institutional EC reforms, the Prime Minister could say that far-reaching changes were agreed in the Single European Act which has been in force for less than a year. The major EC institutions, particularly the Parliament, have still to adapt to their new role. Rather than look for new types of reform, we should now be consolidating the changes in the SEA and developing the areas of Community activity, particularly the Single Market, provided for in it. The EC is not static: the Single Market will change attitudes and opportunities. Its effect on peoples' lives and livelihoods will be much more significant than institutional changes.

The Prime Minister could also say that these developments must not be a reason for the Community to turn inward. The Single Market is a tremendous opportunity for European industry to regain international competitiveness; but only if protectionist pressures are resisted, and the open multilateral trading system extended. The Community must therefore play a full and constructive part in the Uruguay Round. Agriculture will be the key issue. We must obtain credit for the Brussels CAP reforms which were domestically difficult for us all, but we must do more to open agriculture to market forces, and to sustain the liberal international order from which we both benefit.

The Prime Minister may wish to refer to the Community's deepening relationship with the EFTA countries, and the growing links with East European countries. These are important developments economically and politically.

Security Cooperation and Arms Control

We recommend that the Prime Minister draw on the following:-

- We and the FRG make the two biggest contributions to NATO among the European Allies. Good cooperation between us, both military and political, is a prerequisite for a healthy Alliance, and needs to be drawn to public attention in the current burden-sharing climate.

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/- Both



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- Both of us have agreed to look for possible means of enhancing our cooperation within NATO. We hope to have some ideas to share with the Germans shortly which will be of genuine operational value. We attach importance also to working together in the field of defence equipment, where we are partners in some of the biggest collaborative ventures currently under way (eg EFA, Tornado, the TRIGAT anti-tank gun).
- On nuclear arms control we support the US approach to START, namely that it is more important to get it right than to rush it. Following agreement at the NATO Summit to keep nuclear weapons up to date, we support the agreement at the April NPG to a step-by-step approach to implementing necessary nuclear modernisation measures.
- We must soon focus on conventional arms control. The Alliance needs to put together sound proposals. French antipathy to bloc to bloc equal ceilings needs to be overcome.
- A Chemical Weapons Convention remains a UK priority, but we do not expect early or easy resolution of the remaining issues. CW use and proliferation are matters of great concern; we have made proposals in the UN.

21st Century Trust

In her recent letters to Lord Home, the Prime Minister undertook to mention the Trust to President von Weizsäcker. We recommend that she speak on the following lines:-

- Lord Home tells me that he and other supporters of the 21st Century Trust have approached you about setting up a similar body in Germany;
- The Trust has much distinguished support in UK and US; its aim is to foster Western democratic values by promoting exchanges and contacts between young people;
- interested to hear your reactions.

I am copying this letter to Brian Hawtin (MOD) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

VON WEIZSÄCKER, DR RICHARD, HON GCB

Federal President.

Born 1920 in Stuttgart, the son of a career diplomat, Ernest von Weizsäcker, (who though not a Nazi was State Secretary at the Wilhelmstrasse 1938-43 and was sentenced by a US tribunal in 1949 for complicity in war crimes). His brother Carl Friedrich is an eminent physicist and philosopher. His grandfather was a close adviser to the Kaiser and once considered a possible successor to Bismarck.

After a period at Oxford in the family of a Balliol don, he was called up in 1938 and served with the infantry on the eastern front. Came within sight of Moscow in 1941. In 1945 he was among the troops cut off in East Prussia and evacuated to Denmark. When the surrender came he demobbed himself and went home.

Studied law at Grenoble and Göttingen, and helped to defend his father. Entered industry. Became a member of the board of Boehringer and Co at Ingelheim. President of the German Evangelical Church Conference 1964-70 and again 1979-81. Member of the Bundestag from 1969-81, and a Vice Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Party, 1972-79. Nominated to oppose Scheel in the Presidential election of 1974 and did far better than expected against an unbeatable candidate. Author of the party's programme of basic principles, agreed at the 1978 party conference. A Vice President of the Bundestag 1979-81. In the Bundestag he managed to stand above party political infighting. He came to epitomise the liberal socially conscious element in the CDU and clearly saw himself as a conservative with a duty to conciliate and integrate diverging elements of society.

Imported by the Berlin CDU, somewhat at the last moment, to lead the party into the 1979 Berlin elections, he failed to defeat the SPD/FDP coalition, but achieved a record vote for the CDU. When Stobbe fell in January 1981, Weizsäcker forced the other parties to agree to a dissolution. In the subsequent elections the CDU just failed to obtain an absolute majority. Weizsäcker owed his election as Governing Mayor in June 1981 to support from break away members of the FDP Parliamentary Party. Elected Deputy Chairman of the Federal CDU in May 1983: he resigned the post on becoming Federal President.

In Berlin he proved an outstanding success. He took over at a time of considerable disillusionment with the City's political establishment. He came to grips with the problems of the City, showing a depth of vision, wisdom and good sense. His successes were such that only he seemed able to guarantee a further CDU victory in the 1985 Berlin elections. So it was only after some delay and with reluctance that the Chancellor nominated him for the Federal Presidency. But he never had a real alternative. Opinion polls showed von Weizsäcker to be the clear popular favourite. Germans of all parties see him as someone who can integrate and conciliate, who stands above narrow party political interest. He was elected to the Federal Presidency in June 1984 when Carstens's period of office came to an end.

Despite a touch of vanity, von Weizsäcker exudes wisdom and good sense, and is an excellent speaker. An intellectual and philosopher with a conversational style to match, he is liberal in his views on both domestic policy and Ostpolitik, and plays an influential and beneficial national role on the side of moderation in his party. He openly admitted to a wish to make the Presidency a more political office. Many of his speeches since indicate that he intends to stick to this resolution, despite some criticism from the right wing of his liberal, insufficiently 'patriotic' views. His

address to the Bundestag on 8 May 1985, the 40th anniversary of the end of the war, was a classic
• sample and a masterpiece of its kind, containing a powerful plea for a greater awareness among
• Germans of their moral responsibility for events between 1933 and 1945. An old friend of Britain,
who has given much time to the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft and the Königswinter conference.
Paid a highly successful State Visit to the UK in July 1986 which included an address to the two
Houses of Parliament.

Married with four children. He speaks excellent, and his wife adequate, English. Although
born a Freiherr (Baron) he prefers not to use his title.

Mrs Teresa Quismaw
10 Downing Street



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28/4

With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

WG Spahr.

Sadha

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

SW1A 2AH

28 April 1988

DER BOTSCHAFTER
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

Baron Rüdiger von Wechmar

London, 20 April 1988

ASTAN DAVID,

Forgive me for not having replied earlier to your letter of
25 March.

I am pleased to be now able to confirm you that the Federal
President has accepted the invitations for the 23 June of H.M.
the Queen to a private luncheon at Buckingham Palace and the
Prime Minister's to a call at 5.00 p.m. in 10 Downing Street.
We have also transmitted the offer of Sir Geoffrey Howe to
come to the Residence at 6.15 p.m. to meet Freiherr von
Weizsäcker and at the moment we are waiting for the reply from
the Bundespräsidialamt.

I think Robert Barnett is in close contact with Victoria
Zimmermann von Siefert who is the person at the Embassy to
deal with as far as protocol and organisation matters are
concerned.

Yours sincerely

Pray

Mr David Dain
Western European Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London SW1A 2AL

cc: Mrs Gaisman
(No 10)

Mr. P. 22/4.
Mr. Barnett

D 22/ii

pl. copy to Protocol
We should also confirm to
No 10.
Miss Phillips
No spoke RB
GFH 27/4.
26/4.



NC
c Tzi/PAS
PC

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

14 April 1988

Thank you for your letter of 13 April confirming that President von Weizsacker can meet the Prime Minister at 5.00 pm on 23 June. I agree that we should discuss details nearer the time. But I know the Prime Minister would welcome a chance to talk to the Federal President in the smallest possible circle.

(CHARLES POWELL)

His Excellency Baron Rudiger von Wechmar,
GCVO.

DAS

R14/4



DER BOTSCHAFTER
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

Baron Rüdiger von Wechmar

London, 13 April 1988

JOHN CHAMBERS,

I am writing to you concerning the Prime Minister's invitation to meet the Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker at 5 p.m. in 10 Downing Street.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Federal President has much pleasure in accepting. I presume that all further details can be discussed nearer to the date.

With kindest regards

Yours ever

Roy

Mr Charles David Powell
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister
(Overseas Affairs)
10 Downing Street

L o n d o n

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

23 March 1988

VISIT TO BRITAIN OF
PRESIDENT VON WEIZSAECKER

BF 11
Thank you for your letter of 23 March about President von Weizsaecker's visit to Britain and request for a meeting with the Prime Minister on 23 June. It is far from being an ideal day since the Prime Minister will only just have returned from the Economic Summit and her visit to Ottawa and will have to make a statement in the House. But if you advise that a meeting is essential, the Prime Minister could manage 1700 on 23 June for up to 45 minutes.

Charles Powell

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

lv



10
Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 March 1988

Not at all a
constraint line. You
will just be back from
the Economic Summit, &
have made a statement
to the House. But it
will be difficult to say no.

✓ PC
①

Visit to Britain by President von Weizsaecker

As you may know, President von Weizsaecker will be receiving a degree from Oxford University by decree on 22 June. He will attend the normal reception and dinner and stay overnight in Oxford before coming down to London on 23 June for a short programme, including a private lunch with HM The Queen.

Detailed arrangements for the remainder of the programme are being made by the FRG Embassy here. Would the Prime Minister be willing to see President von Weizsaecker for a short call during the afternoon, after Question Time in the House? The President has expressed willingness to cancel other appointments in Bonn to make time for such a call, if it were possible for the Prime Minister.

Agree to short meeting?
CDP
Yes
ms

Janis over
LBA (over)

PP (L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

FRG



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me

CEPC

Botschaft
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

London, 11 July, 1986

EDD
1577

Dear Prime Minister,

I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed letter from the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Herr Dr. Richard von Weizsäcker.

I am, dear Prime Minister,
Yours sincerely
Hans v. Helldorf

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury
10 Downing Street
London



*Der Präsident
der
Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

Bonn, den 7. Juli 1986

Her Excellency
The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Her Majesty's Prime Minister and
First Lord of the Treasury
10 Downing Street

London SW 1

Prime Minister,

in die Bundesrepublik Deutschland zurückgekehrt, möchte ich Ihnen nochmals herzlich für die großzügige Gastfreundschaft und die vertrauensvollen Gespräche danken, die ich in London mit Ihnen führen konnte. Aus ihnen habe ich wichtige Eindrücke und Einsichten mit nach Hause genommen. Ihr persönliches, engagiertes Eintreten für eine noch engere deutsch-britische Zusammenarbeit im Interesse Europas und der Atlantischen Allianz hat mich tief beeindruckt. Sie wissen, daß wir diesen Willen aus Überzeugung erwidern. Es war mir wichtig, dies auch durch meinen Staatsbesuch nach außen sichtbar zu machen. Ich bin mit der Gewißheit nach Hause zurückgekehrt, daß unsere

beiden Länder und Völker heute enger und freundschaftlicher miteinander verbunden sind als je zuvor.

with kindest personal regards

yours very sincerely,

Richard Wipplinger

Prime Minister

CDP
12/7

Translation

The President of the
Federal Republic of Germany

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Her Majesty's Prime Minister and
First Lord of the Treasury
10 Downing Street

London SW 1

ms

Dear Prime Minister,

Having returned to the Federal Republic of Germany I wish to thank you once again for your generous hospitality and for our meeting in London. It was most informative and helped to broaden my view of the matters we discussed. I was most impressed by your strong personal commitment to closer German-British co-operation in the interest of Europe and the Atlantic Alliance. You know that we reciprocate this commitment out of conviction. It was important to me to demonstrate this further through my state visit.

I have returned home in the certainty that the bonds of friendship between our two countries and our people are stronger today than at any time in the past.

(sgd.) Richard von Weizsäcker

R417

COURTAULDS PLC

18 Hanover Square
London W1A 2BB
Telephone 01-629 9080
Telex 28788

④
Prime Minister
CDD

mt

3 July, 1986

Dear Prime Minister,

I was honoured to be included amongst the guests at your lunch for the President of West Germany yesterday and I enjoyed Downing Street's usual impeccable hospitality. I am always struck on such occasions, if I may say so, by the marvellous combination of relaxed style and efficiency into which you and your staff handle them. I've learnt a few lessons thereby!

Yours sincerely,

Chris Hogg

Registered in London No 128124
Registered Office
18 Hanover Square London W1A 2BB

C/F
I have kept copy
for my gift file
JD 47



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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

3 July 1986

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you very much for the magnificent silver and crystal bowl, which you have so kindly presented to me. It is a most handsome and generous gift and one which I shall treasure.

I found our talk yesterday very stimulating and send you once again my congratulations upon your outstanding speech to our two Houses of Parliament. The notoriously grudging British press is full of admiration for it.

Your State Visit has clearly been a great success. The warmth of your reception testifies to the real feelings of friendship which now exist between Britain and Germany, and which you and your wife have done so much to promote.

With warm personal regards.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Walker

His Excellency Dr. Richard Von Weizsaecker

RLW

Subject

Master

SECRET: BURNING BUSH

ECL/MJ



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bc PC

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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

2 July 1986

From the Private Secretary

Dear Tony,

**STATE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY: MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER**

The Prime Minister had a brief meeting with President von Weizsaecker following the lunch in his honour today. The President was accompanied by Herr Genscher. The Foreign Secretary was also present.

East-West Relations

The Prime Minister complimented President von Weizsaecker warmly on his thoughtful speech to the two Houses of Parliament. She had been particularly impressed by his comments on East-West relations. She would be interested to hear more how he thought one could keep hopes alive in Eastern Europe, given that it was unrealistic to expect any real change in the Communist system in her lifetime at least. Was there nothing we could do to enlarge the freedom of those in the satellite countries? She found it difficult to make up her mind whether it was right for Western leaders to visit East European countries. She always feared that ordinary people in these countries would feel let down at the sight of Western Heads of Government hobnobbing with Communist leaders. This was one reason why she hesitated to visit countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia. On the other hand, she had received a very warm reception from ordinary people in Hungary. What were the President's views on this dilemma?

President von Weizsaecker said that he agreed with the Prime Minister's basic premises. Communism would not change significantly and would maintain its grip in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe. Yet we had to find ways of easing the lives of ordinary people in Eastern Europe. We had to remember that these countries felt part of Europe. For the Poles, for example, Eastern Europe started on their eastern, not their western, frontier. In his own contacts with East Europeans, he found that they passionately wanted Europe to become a force to be reckoned with. That gave them hope. If offered a choice between short-term destabilising activities and a long drawn out process of adaptation, they would certainly opt for the latter. That was why the outcome of the recent CSCE meeting in Berne had been such a deep disappointment to East Europeans. As he had said in his speech, it was they who had to pay the price

SECRET: BURNING BUSH

MS

for failure to reach agreement on issues such as improved human contacts. It was all very well for the West to stand pat on its principles. But the consequences fell on the shoulders of the people of Eastern Europe. The West must always bear this in mind when deciding whether to accept compromises on any issue which held out some prospect of improving the life of these people. As to the Prime Minister's question about visits, he was in no doubt at all that such visits were desirable and welcome to ordinary people in Eastern Europe. They were a way of showing how much we cared. Moreover it was easier for British than for German Ministers to pay such visits. He hoped that we would continue and indeed increase them.

Relations between Europe and the United States

President von Weizsaecker asked how the Prime Minister saw the prospects for relations between Europe and the United States. His own feeling was that the Americans did not have a policy of divide et impera. Rather they were frustrated by Europe's inability to act together.

The Prime Minister said that she had some sympathy with American frustration. There was no question of developing the same political structures in Europe as in the United States. As President von Weizsaecker had said in his speech, the national character of individual European nations must not be submerged. But even where Europe was supposed to have got together, for instance to create a single market, it had failed. In political co-operation there were very disparate views. She instanced Mr Papandreou's comments about Turkey at the recent European Council. Of course, there would never be complete identity of views on political co-operation questions. She recalled some wise words of Lord Stockton. It was a mistake for politicians always to talk in terms of problems, because it gave the impression that there were always solutions available. In practice many problems, particularly in relations between countries, could never be solved. You just had to do the best you could. In the end one had to acknowledge the basic differences between the United States and Europe. The American people were self-selected, pioneering and self-reliant. The Europeans had become enervated and accustomed to rely on subsidies. The result was that the United States always found itself in the role of leader, while Europe was the follower. This was not a healthy relationship and the root cause of much of the friction in European-United States relations.

President von Weizsaecker said that the United States was sometimes insensitive towards Europe's interests. For instance, in the CSCE process they wanted to concentrate only on Basket One, without appearing to realise that Europe had important interests in Basket Two. Europe needed to consult more with the United States and explain itself better. The United Kingdom was particularly well placed to help with this.

The Prime Minister recalled that it had been the custom

for the Berlin Four to meet regularly at Head of Government level, for instance in the margins of Economic Summits. She regretted that the habit seemed to have lapsed. We needed a forum to discuss European concerns in which the Americans were present. In her view the Quadripartite Forum was by far the best and she would like to see it revived at Head of Government level, perhaps in the context of the celebrations of the 750th Anniversary of Berlin. President von Weizsaecker agreed and urged the Prime Minister to follow up this approach.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Howe (Ministry of Defence) and to Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,
Charles Powell

Charles Powell

A.C. Galsworthy, Esq., CMG.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH PRESIDENT VON WEIZACKER

You are to have a talk with President von Weizsacker after lunch. You saw the briefs at the weekend. He tends to like rather philosophical and wide-ranging discussions. //

The President has asked whether Herr Genscher can also take part in the talks, in which case Sir Geoffrey Howe would also be present.

I suggest that, at the end of lunch, you might ask Mr. Thatcher to escort the President's wife to the front door, while you lead the President to the White Drawing Room for a talk.

C.D.P

CDP

1 July, 1986.

JD75

cc/c
BHP
(2)



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 June 1986

Prime Minister
You may like to
see this over
the week-end.
He tends to
prefer rather
philosophical
discussion
CDP
27/6

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Talks with
President von Weizsacker: 2 July

The Prime Minister will have 45 minutes of talks with President von Weizsacker after her lunch in his honour. The President has asked that Herr Genscher should be present. If the Prime Minister is content, Sir Geoffrey Howe also proposes to attend.

The President will have delivered his address to Members of both Houses of Parliament in the Royal Gallery immediately before lunch. We understand that von Weizsacker's principal theme is likely to be the shared aims of Britain and Germany in overcoming the divisions between East and West and in building a more united Western Europe. I will forward a copy of his text if we receive it beforehand.

I enclose a copy of Sir Julian Bullard's recent despatch on von Weizsacker's record in office. The despatch brings out his highly political interpretation of the Presidency and readiness to enter areas of controversy. Von Weizsacker has spoken out clearly when his conscience has moved him. After the American raid on Libya, for example, he declared the operation "unavoidable and right". In his most recent public speeches he has advised the German trade unions against docility and criticised, in the light of Chernobyl, attitudes that seemed to accept indefinite dependence on nuclear power.

Von Weizsacker last visited No 10 on 5 April 1984, after he had stepped down as Governing Mayor of Berlin and before his election as President. He was in Britain to attend the annual Koenigswinter conference. The conversation before dinner (John Coles's letter of 6 April 1984 to Roger Bone) centred on East/West and inner German relations. In a separate meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe (and at the Prime Minister's dinner) von Weizsacker took an emphatic line about the Community, saying in his speech that while it was perfectly legitimate to defend

/national



national interests, in the German view there were no national interests in Europe outside the Community. He spoke of his conviction that in considering the Community's future it was not enough to envisage merely a free trade area plus an element of political cooperation.

Sir Geoffrey Howe recommends in her discussion with von Weizsacker the Prime Minister should :

a) emphasise the importance of the Anglo-German relationship for the building of European cooperation in all fields : military, political, economic.

b) point to Britain and Germany's shared interest in relation to a range of world problems.

I enclose a checklist.

Like all German leaders, von Weizsacker has a special interest in East/West relations. His own experience of Germany's predicament started in the army in Russia during the war and continued when he helped to defend his father (State Secretary at the German Foreign Office from 1938-43) at Nuremberg. He will be interested (as in 1984, when he asked about Kadar) in the Prime Minister's view of Warsaw Pact leaders and the prospects for significant change under Gorbachev. The Prime Minister might ask von Weizsacker how he now sees the prospects for change in Eastern and central Europe, particularly in the GDR. Von Weizsacker, like his predecessors, considers it his duty to defend, to the extent that he can, the interests of Germans in the GDR, where his views are listened to with respect. Discussion might also cover the role of the Europeans in East-West exchanges, both in their own right and through influencing the superpower dialogue. Von Weizsacker is likely to be interested in the Prime Minister's view of the prospects for the CSCE, before the review meeting due to begin in Vienna on 4 November.

It would be appropriate to touch on Berlin, of which von Weizsacker was Governing Mayor from 1981 to 1984. The Prime Minister might take the opportunity to reaffirm the British commitment to the security and prosperity of the city, particularly in the context of its 750th Anniversary next year. She will recall the intention of the present Governing Mayor to invite her, President Reagan and President Mitterand to visit West Berlin after the Economic Summit in Italy. If von Weizsacker raises the recent difficulty over sector crossing procedures, the Prime Minister could say that they have been resolved thanks to

/close



close cooperation on the part of the three protecting power, the Federal Republic and other members of NATO, whose firm stand caused the Russians and East Germans to withdraw the new measures and restore previous practices.

Von Weizsacker has given much thought to the evils of terrorism. He spoke out strongly after the bombing of the discotheque in West Berlin (in which two hundred Germans were injured). He might have ideas on how to improve international cooperation in opposing terrorism, and on the apparent reduction in Libyan-inspired terrorist ventures since the American raid.

He made a notable contribution to Germany's position in the Middle East by his tact and discretion on his visit (the first by a German President) to Israel in October 1985. He would no doubt be interested to hear the Prime Minister's own thoughts on Israel in the light of her recent visit. His most recent State Visit was to Turkey. The Prime Minister might ask his impressions. Britain and Germany have worked together to allow Turkey to assume the Vice Presidency of the Council of Europe and to promote normalisation of Turkey's relationship with the Community.

The Prime Minister might note the special community of interest between Britain and Germany in relation to South Africa.

Von Weizsacker will be interested not only in the priorities for our Presidency of the European Community, but also in the Prime Minister's views on where the Community is heading. She might draw his attention to the achievements of the last few years (enlargement, Own Resources Decision, Single European Act) and say that it is now time to build on that foundation by completing the internal market by 1992, tackling the problem of agricultural surpluses, developing political cooperation and working together on employment growth. In all these areas we see the FRG and France as our chief partners, although on the CAP the Germans will need to restrain the demands of their own farmers.

On subjects other than foreign affairs, the President might be interested to hear the Prime Minister's views on changes she has sought to bring about in British society and economic life. He may offer his own thoughts about changes in German society, and with his interest in the problems (such as unemployment and drugs) of young people, how best to accommodate their aspirations and to reconcile differences in values and attitudes between the generations.

/The



The Prime Minister might conclude by mentioning her own planned visit to Germany in September for the next bilateral summit with Chancellor Kohl and their intended joint visit to British Forces Germany. Plans are in preparation for meetings at Celle with both British (total in Germany 67,000) and German army units.

In any conversation with Freifrau von Weizsacker over lunch the Prime Minister should be aware that, like her husband, she is very active in the affairs of the Evangelical Church. She might also be interested in talking about the rehabilitation of drug addicts, in view of her visit after lunch to Phoenix House (an institution pioneering rehabilitation techniques). Her other interests include modern theatre, 20th century art (she will visit the Tate Gallery), gardening and photography.

I enclose personality notes on President von Weizsacker, Freifrau von Weizsacker and Herr Genscher.

*Yours ever,
Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq.
No 10 Downing St



PRIME MINISTER'S TALKS WITH PRESIDENT VON WEIZSÄCKER, 1500, 2 JULY

CHECKLIST

General

- Importance of Anglo-German relationship for building European cooperation.
- Their shared interest in relation to world problems.

East/West Relations

- Gorbachev's position firm, but under constraints.
- Calls for greater openness, but Chernobyl showed limits.
- No let-up on human rights: Gorbachev wants to improve system, not abandon it.
- Gorbachev's external policy: more activity, but fundamentals unchanged: preoccupation with US, more demands on Eastern Europe, maintaining third world investment, taking low-cost opportunities.
- UK/German role: complementary activity on dialogue (Shevardnadze to UK 14-15 July, Genscher to Moscow 20-22 July): coordination of input into US positions on arms control negotiations: joint MBFR initiative: current work on CW.
- CSCE: Vienna important opportunity to sustain momentum and re-establish balance in CSCE process.

Berlin UK commitment: 750th Anniversary.

Terrorism Value of firm international action: consequences of American raid.

Middle East Von Weizsäcker's visit to Israel in October 1985.

South Africa UK and German common interest in opposing sanctions.

Turkey Von Weizsäcker's visit at end May.

Similarity of British and German aims in Europe

- Defence co-operation.
- Technological co-operation.

Within Community:

- Emphasis on completion of internal market (though Germany more nuanced).
- Effective development of European political cooperation.
- Imaginative, but cost effective, approach to new areas (eg R and D).
- Germans too want solution to agricultural surplus problem, for financial reasons, but are vulnerable to ~~small~~ farmer lobby.

Presidency Priorities

- Action programme on completion of internal market.
- Deregulation/UK initiative on employment growth.
- Liberalisation in transport.
- CAP reform.
- Impetus on GATT.
- Sensitive handling of EC/US trade disputes.
- Disciplined solution to budget problems.
- Development of EC/Turkey relations.
- Effective cooperation through EPC.

VON WEIZSÄCKER, DR RICHARD

Federal President.

Born 1920 in Stuttgart, the son of a career diplomat, Ernest von Weizsäcker, (who though not a Nazi was State Secretary at the Wilhelmstrasse 1938-43 and was sentenced by a US tribunal in 1949 for complicity in war crimes). His brother Carl Friedrich is an eminent physicist and philosopher. His grandfather was a close adviser to the Kaiser and once considered a possible successor to Bismarck.

After a period at Oxford in the family of a Balliol don, he was called up in 1938 and served with the infantry on the eastern front. Came within sight of Moscow in 1941. In 1945 he was among the troops cut off in East Prussia and evacuated to Denmark. When the surrender came he demobbed himself and went home.

Studied law at Grenoble and Göttingen, and helped to defend his father. Entered industry. Became a member of the board of Boehringer and Co at Ingelheim. President of the German Evangelical Church Conference 1964-70 and again 1979-81. Member of the Bundestag from 1969-81, and a Vice Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Party, 1972-79. Nominated to oppose Scheel in the Presidential election of 1974 and did far better than expected against an unbeatable candidate. Author of the party's programme of basic principles, agreed at the 1978 party conference. A Vice President of the Bundestag 1979-81. In the Bundestag he managed to stand above party political infighting. He came to epitomise the liberal socially conscious element in the CDU and clearly saw himself as a conservative with a duty to conciliate and integrate diverging elements of society.

Imported by the Berlin CDU, somewhat at the last moment, to lead the party into the 1979 Berlin elections, he failed to defeat the SPD/FDP coalition, but achieved a record vote for the CDU. When Stobbe fell in January 1981, Weizsäcker forced the other parties to agree to a dissolution. In the subsequent elections the CDU just failed to obtain an absolute majority. Weizsäcker owed his election as Governing Mayor in June 1981 to support from break away members of the FDP Parliamentary Party. Elected Deputy Chairman of the Federal CDU in May 1983: he resigned the post on becoming Federal President.

In Berlin he proved an outstanding success. He took over at a time of considerable disillusionment with the City's political establishment. He came to grips with the problems of the City, showing a depth of vision, wisdom and good sense. His successes were such that only he seemed able to guarantee a further CDU victory in the 1985 Berlin elections. So it was only after some delay and with reluctance that the Chancellor nominated him for the Federal Presidency. But he never had a real alternative. Opinion polls showed von Weizsäcker to be the clear popular favourite. Germans of all parties see him as someone who can integrate and conciliate, who stands above narrow party political interest. He was elected to the Federal Presidency in June 1984 when Carstens's period of office came to an end.

Despite a touch of vanity, von Weizsäcker exudes wisdom and good sense, and is an excellent speaker. An intellectual and philosopher with a conversational style to match, he is liberal in his views on both domestic policy and Ostpolitik, and plays an influential and beneficial national role on the side of moderation in his party. He openly admitted to a wish to make the Presidency a more political office. Many of his speeches in his first 18 months indicate that he intends to stick to this resolution. His address to the Bundestag on 8 May 1985, the 40th anniversary of the end of the war, was a classic example and a masterpiece of its kind, containing a powerful plea for a greater awareness among Germans of their moral responsibility for events between 1933 and 1945. An old friend of Britain, who has given much time to the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft and the Königswinter conference. Is to pay a State Visit to the UK in July 1986.

Married with four children. He speaks excellent, and his wife adequate, English. Although born a Freiherr (Baron) he prefers not to use his title.

VON WEIZSAECKER, FREIFRAU MARIANNE

Marianne Freifrau von Weizsaecker, nee von Kretschmann, was born and educated in Essen on 17 May 1932. She subsequently attended Business College at Hamburg. In 1953 at the age of 21 she married Richard von Weizsaecker.

A committed Christian, she was a member of the Presbytery of the Evangelical Peace Church in Bonn from 1972-81, and undertook nursing work at an Evangelical Children's Hospital. Her interest in education has led to her membership of the Board of Trustees of the German National Scholarship Foundation and the St John's Foundation, Berlin.

When her husband became President in 1984, she assumed the Presidency of the Elly Heuss-Knapp Foundation (German Mothers' Welfare Institution). She also became Patroness of the German UNICEF Committee. In 1985 she became Patroness of the Federation of Parents of Adolescents Exposed or Addicted to Drugs.

Her cultural interests include modern theatre and 20th century art. She is a keen photographer and gardener. She has 4 children (3 sons and 1 daughter).

She speaks excellent English.

CONFIDENTIAL

GENSCHER, HANS DIETRICH, HON GCMG

Federal Foreign Minister and Vice-Chancellor since May 1974.

Born 1927 in Reideburg, Saxony (now GDR). Son of a farm cooperative official. War service with the Luftwaffe. POW. Later studied law in Halle and Leipzig. Left the GDR for the Federal Republic in 1952 and joined the FDP. Became Business Manager of the FDP Parliamentary Party in 1959 and then in addition, from 1962-64, Federal Business Manager of the FDP. Elected to the Bundestag in 1965. Became a Vice-Chairman of the Party in 1968, Minister of the Interior 1969-74. When Scheel became Federal President in 1974, Genscher succeeded him as Chairman of the FDP, Vice-Chancellor to Schmidt, and Foreign Minister.

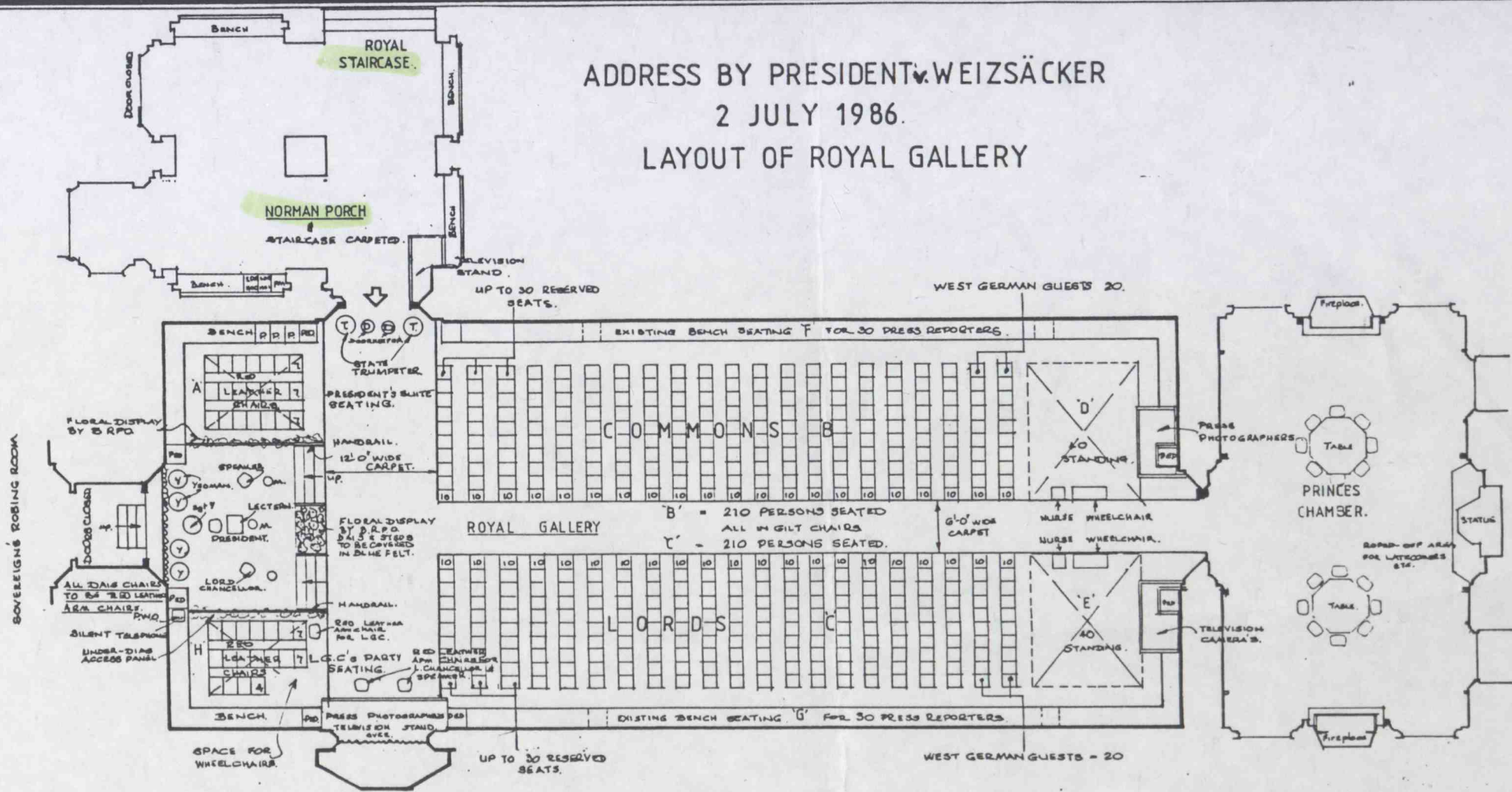
The FDP's excellent showing in the 1980 Federal election increased Genscher's standing both as Foreign Minister and Party Chairman. But it became increasingly clear that Genscher no longer believed that the SPD/FDP Coalition had a future; and he began to look for the best way to end it. When the moment came in September 1982, however, Genscher was outmanoeuvred by Schmidt, and he and his party took the full force of public criticism for the break-up of the Government. Genscher was also attacked by the FDP left-wing for the way in which he had forced through the switch without consulting his party. At the FDP Party Conference in November 1982, a determined, but unsuccessful, effort was made to unseat him as Party Chairman, and a large proportion of the FDP left then quit the party. By realigning it well to the right, Genscher managed to ensure that the FDP secured re-election to the Bundestag in March 1983.

But discontent with him in the Party re-emerged when he tried to corral the FDP into accepting an amnesty for politicians and businessmen in the so-called Flick scandal. Faced with a further challenge to his leadership at the Party Conference in 1984 he only succeeded in defusing the situation by announcing that he would stand down as Party Chairman in 1985, which he subsequently did to make way for Bangemann (qv).

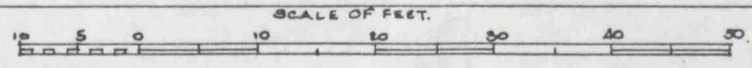
Genscher's problems with his own Party have inevitably affected his authority as Foreign Minister, and there is now speculation about his replacement (eg by Bangemann) after the 1987 elections. He has also lost ground since 1982 to the Chancellor's Adviser on Foreign Affairs, Teltschik (qv). But he remains an active and effective Foreign Minister, and can be expected to use all the tactical cunning at his disposal to hang on to the job.

An immensely hard worker, with the capacity to absorb detailed information quickly. In private he is an easy-going man, informal yet with a certain reserve. He divorced his first wife and married his then secretary in 1969. For both it was their second marriage. Since then, he draws a clear line between business and family life, partly in the interests of his daughter, (by his first wife), to whom he is deeply attached. He reads voraciously anything that lies to hand. His tastes in music are equally wide-ranging from classical to pop. In the 50s he suffered from a nearly fatal bout of tuberculosis which kept him three years in a clinic. In November 1977 he was admitted to hospital with pneumonia, and secondary blood circulation instability. He did not return to work until mid-January 1978. Although he seemed to recover well at the time, the enormous strain of his working habits has taken its toll and he often looks less than healthy.

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT WEIZSÄCKER 2 JULY 1986. LAYOUT OF ROYAL GALLERY



ACCOMMODATION.			
BLOCK A	SEATED	21.	BENCH F.
• B	"	210.	SEATED
• C	"	210.	BENCH G.
• D	STANDING	20.	"
• E	"	20.	BLOCK H.
			SEATED
			"



<p>KEY.</p> <p>BLOCK 'A' (SEATED) CHAIRS FOR PRESIDENTIAL SUITE BENCHES AT REAR RESERVED FOR ANY ACCOMPANYING STAFF. EG. POLICE, MEDICAL ETC.</p> <p>BLOCK 'B' (SEATED) M.P.s _____ 190 WEST GERMAN GUESTS. — 20 <u>210</u></p> <p>BLOCK 'C' (SEATED) PEERS _____ 190 WEST GERMAN GUESTS — 20 <u>210</u></p> <p>BLOCK 'D' (STANDING) STANDING VACANCIES FOR COMMONS INCL. 20 OFFICERS/STAFF <u>40</u></p>	<p>BLOCK 'E' (STANDING) STANDING VACANCIES FOR LORDS & LORDS OFFICERS/STAFF <u>35</u> <u>5</u> <u>40</u></p> <p>BENCHES 'F' & 'G' (SEATED) 30 EACH BENCH FOR JOURNALISTS _____ 60.</p> <p>BLOCK 'H' (SEATED) CHAIRS FOR L.G.C.'S PARTY WITH BENCHES AT REAR RESERVED FOR P.W.O AND OVERFLOW.</p>
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W.H. LEWIS OBE.
PARLIAMENTARY WORKS OFFICER
PALACE OF WESTMINSTER.
DRAWING N° PNO 1705/AB1/1. May 86
T.T.S.

THE RT HON THE PRIME MINISTER

His Excellency Dr Richard von Weizsäcker

His Excellency Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher

MR DENIS THATCHER

The Lady Hailsham of St Marylebone

Freifrau von Weizsäcker

Dr Klaus Blech

The Rt Hon The Lord
Hailsham of St Marylebone

Lady Howe

Frau Genscher

The Rt Hon George Younger

The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker

His Excellency the Ambassador of
the Federal Republic of Germany

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe

Frau Blech

Dr Gerold von Braunmühl

Mrs Younger

Baroness von Wechmar

The Rt Hon Roy Jenkins

Dame Jennifer Jenkins

Werner Graf von der Schulenberg

The Hon William Waldegrave

Gräfin von der Schulenberg

The Viscount Boyne

The Hon Mrs Waldegrave

Herr Peter Schönfeld

General Sir Nigel Bagnall

Lady Bagnall

Dr Reinhold Schenk

Lady Susan Hussey

Lady Bullard

Sir Nicholas Henderson

Lady Sylvia Maltby

Sir William Barlow

Mr George Robertson

Lady Messervy

Sir Julian Bullard

Lady Henderson

Lady Hogg

Mr Donald Anderson

Mrs Robertson

Sir Godfrey Messervy

Sir Patrick Wright

Mrs Holmes

Mr J N Maltby

Mrs Anderson

Mr Peter Holmes

Sir Christopher Hogg

Lady Barlow

Colonel Wolfgang Sand

Mrs Rutherford

Lady Wright

Mr Nigel Forman

Mr Peter Jenkins

Mr Robert Jones

Dr Friedbert Pflüger

Mrs Jenkins

Mrs Powell

Miss Virginia Wade

Mrs Mallaby

Mr Malcolm Rutherford

Mr Christopher Mallaby

Major Hugh Lindsay

Professor Roger Morgan

Mr Charles Powell

ENTRANCE



LUNCHEON

In honour of
His Excellency the President
of the
Federal Republic of Germany
and Freifrau von Weizsäcker

10 DOWNING STREET
WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY 1986

*The Rt Hon
The Prime Minister*

1.8 no
FROM THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



cepc
HOUSE OF LORDS,
LONDON SW1A 0PW

26 June 1986

Tony Galsworthy Esq
Private Secretary to
The Secretary of State for
Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AL

✓ CDP
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Dear Tony,

President Weizsacker's Address to both Houses of Parliament
2 July 1986

I think you will wish to see the text of the speech which the Lord Chancellor proposes to deliver when he welcomes President Weizsacker on the occasion of his forthcoming address to both Houses of Parliament.

I am copying this letter and its attachment to Charles Powell, Bill Beaumont and Gavin Anderson in your own Office.

Yours sincerely,

Richard

Richard Stoate

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany

2 July 1986

Mr Speaker, Herr Bundespräsident, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Today we offer a warm welcome to the Head of State of one of Europe's great democracies, now allied in firm friendship with our own. In him we are also honoured to welcome a friend to this country of long standing.

Mr Speaker: this meeting is long overdue. It is difficult to exaggerate the contribution which each of our two countries has made to our common European civilisation, or the extent to which each has suffered in the course of the terrible events of the twentieth century. Your visit here, Herr Bundespräsident, is doubly welcome, both on its own account, but also because it symbolises the wholehearted determination of

both our peoples to build a new Europe founded on the rule of law, a common love of peace and freedom, and a determination that these three principles shall guide our conduct into the indefinite future. As your poet Goethe said: "Das Gesetz nur kann uns Freiheit geben". Only law can give us freedom. I need hardly add that only a state of peace between peoples can guarantee the enjoyment of liberty under the rule of law. I recall the old Latin tag: "Inter arma silent leges", which might be rendered, somewhat freely: "Peace is a condition of the rule of law".

It is right that today we should dwell for a moment on the contribution by great Germans to our common European heritage, in music the names of all the numerous Bach family, Händel, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Wagner instantly spring to mind, as do Immanuel Kant and Hegel in philosophy, as do the painters and poets, as do the many social and political architects of

modern liberal democracy. Nor must we forget the scholars, the great hymn writers (Ein Feste Burg ist unser Gott) sung in an English version in all our British churches, the great scientists, and the brave men and women who resisted tyranny and were martyred in the cause of freedom and religion. I forbear to name names among this noble army of martyrs. They are too numerous to be singled out. But they are ever to be had in remembrance for they suffered unto death for the wholeness of humanity, the brotherhood of the entire human race.

But we must talk of the future. The future depends on harmony, common ideals, combined with courage to defend ourselves, willingness to weld together the forces of Parliamentary democracy in a thriving community and mutual understanding of the needs and hopes of the nations we represent.

You, Herr Bundespräsident, have given long and ample proof of your devotion to all these things and your ability to take a wider view of human brotherhood and neighbourliness as exemplified by your understanding of the needs of the needy multitudes outside our own industrialised continent, an understanding you share with your distinguished predecessor in Berlin Herr Willy Brandt. Your presidential address to the German people a year ago had a profound effect here, as it did in Germany, not least because of its earnest appeal to the young never to allow themselves to be forced into enmity with others, whether from East or West, North or South. The hope for true peace begins with a determination on the part of the individual to love and respect his fellow man. When I was in Bonn two months ago, I ventured to quote the wise saying of a Roman statesman who lived and died half a century before the founder of the Christian religion was born who spoke of our natural propensity to love our fellow man, and

added as he did so that this natural propensity was the foundation of the rule of law.

Mr Speaker, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is now my privilege and pleasure to invite the President of the Federal Republic of Germany to address this assembly, Herr Richard von Weizsäcker



10 DOWNING STREET

Charles

Visit of Pres. Weizsäcker

Address to Parliament
on wed. 2 July 1986.

Murdo Maclean in the
chief whip's office
wondered whether
Mr Thatcher would
like to accompany
the PM on this
occasion?

Not appropriate
CM.

Julie

11/6



file 311

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

15 May 1986

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 14 May. Mrs. Thatcher will of course be at Victoria Station to meet the President of the Federal Republic of Germany and Freifrau von Weizsacker on Tuesday 1 July, and will arrive no later than 1210.

The Prime Minister will be commencing her journey from 10 Downing Street.

CAROLINE RYDER

Lt. Col. Sir John Johnston, KCVO, MC



LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,
ST. JAMES'S PALACE, S.W.1.

ER for
action

EDP
15/5

R15/5

14th May, 1986

My dear Prime Minister,

State Visit of
The President of the Federal Republic of Germany
and Freifrau von Weizsäcker
Arrival - Tuesday, 1st July, 1986

I have the honour to inform you that The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh will meet The President of the Federal Republic of Germany and Freifrau von Weizsäcker upon Their Arrival at Victoria Station at 12.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 1st July next.

The Queen wishes you, as Prime Minister, to be present on this occasion and to arrive at Victoria Station, Hudson's Place by not later than 12.10 p.m.

Day Dress and a hat will be worn.

I shall be grateful if I may please be provided with the address from which you will start your journey to Victoria Station in order that a route and windscreen label may be provided to facilitate your arrival.

Yours sincerely,
John Johnson

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, MP.,
10 Downing Street,
London,
S.W.1.

FILE CAJ



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 May 1986

**STATE VISIT BY PRESIDENT VON WEIZSAECKER:
PRIME MINISTER'S LUNCH**

Thank you for your letter of 6 May reporting President Von Weizsaecker's preference for avoiding formal speeches at the Prime Minister's lunch on 2 July. I am sure the Prime Minister would be content with this.

CHARLES POWELL

R. N. Culshaw, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CS

C.R.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

6 May 1986

*Dear Charles,*State Visit by President Von Weizsaecker: Prime Minister's Lunch

We have heard that President von Weizsaecker would prefer to avoid formal speeches at the Prime Minister's lunch on 2 July. The President will have just come from his address in Parliament, and will have a number of other formal speeches to deliver during his visit.

If the Prime Minister is content, I recommend that she follow the loyal toasts with only a few short remarks (for which we can supply notes, if you wish). The President might then make a short reply.

The address to Parliament is at 1200; it would therefore be best if the lunch were at 1300 for 1315.

*Yours ever**R N Culshaw*

(R N Culshaw)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street



File

BM
bc *pc*

10 DOWNING STREET

29 April 1986

From the Private Secretary

Dear Sir,

**STATE VISIT BY PRESIDENT VON WEIZSAECKER:
ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT**

Thank you for your letter of 28 April about the proposal that President von Weizsaecker should address a Joint Session of both Houses of Parliament during his State Visit in July. I can confirm the Prime Minister's agreement to such an address being included in the State Visit programme.

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The Prime Minister would also be happy to have a talk with President von Weizsaecker on 2 July. It is not realistic, however, to expect this to start as early as 1430 hours since lunch on these occasions tends to last until 1445 at least. It would be prudent to allow the period 1500 - 1545 hours. The Prime Minister's preference will be for the talk to take place tête-à-tête with only a notetaker on each side.

I am copying this letter to Joan MacNaughton (Lord President's Office), Richard Stoate (Lord Chancellor's Office), David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office), Bill Beaumont (Speaker's Office) and Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office).

Yours truly,
(C.D. Powell)
(C.D. POWELL)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

AA



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

Would you please signify
your formal agreement to
an invitation to von Weizsaecker
to address both Houses of Parliament?

28 April 1986

Dear Charles,

CDP 2084

Speed mt

State Visit by President von Weizsaecker:
Address to Parliament

Your letter of 3 February confirmed the Prime Minister's agreement that it would be appropriate for President von Weizsaecker to address a Joint Session of both Houses of Parliament during his State Visit. We have now completed the necessary consultations with those concerned in Parliament: the Lord President, Lord Chancellor, Lord Privy Seal, Speaker, Chief Whip, and leaders of the Labour Party and both halves of the Alliance have all accepted the idea. It is agreed that the address should take place in the Royal Gallery.

The Foreign Secretary accordingly recommends that the Prime Minister should now formally agree to the address being included in the State Visit programme. Following the pattern set in the Spanish case, it would be best if this took place at 1200 on Wednesday, 2 July, before the Prime Minister's lunch.

With the Prime Minister's formal agreement, the Lord Chamberlain will convey the invitation through the German Ambassador. The Foreign Secretary will also write to the Lord Great Chamberlain requesting The Queen's formal permission to use the Royal Gallery.

President von Weizsaecker has stressed the importance he attaches to holding substantive discussions during the visit, and would like a good three-quarters of an hour of private discussion with the Prime Minister (he should be meeting Mr Kinnock later that day, and possibly the leaders of the Alliance on Friday 4 July once the formal State Visit itself has ended). I understand the Prime Minister's diary would allow this to take place from 1430-1515. We expect that the President's preference would be for a tête-à-tête with notetakers and perhaps Ambassadors. Would the Prime Minister be content if von Weizsaecker did wish to include one or two other advisers?

/I am



CONFIDENTIAL

I am sending a copy of this letter to Joan McNaughton (Lord President's office), Richard Stoate (Lord Chancellor's office), David Morris (Lord Privy Seal), Bill Beaumont (Speaker's office) and Murdo MacLean (Chief Whip's office) in formal confirmation of the outcome of my consultations on the address to Members of both Houses of Parliament. I doubt if the Prime Minister need write personally to the Lord Chancellor or Speaker on this occasion.

*Yours ever,
Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

GERMANY - Visit of Pres

von Weizsäcker - 2/86





10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 March 1986

FRG STATE VISIT: GUILDHALL BANQUET

Thank you for your letter of 27 March asking whether the Prime Minister would wish to attend the Guildhall Banquet for President von Weizsaecker on 2 July.

I am confident that the Prime Minister will not want to attend.

(Charles Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

EA



CCPK

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 March 1986

Dear Charles,

FRG State Visit: Guildhall Banquet

I am writing to ask whether the Prime Minister wishes to attend the Guildhall Banquet given by the Lord Mayor of London for President von Weizsaecker and Freifrau von Weizsaecker of the Federal Republic of Germany on Wednesday 2 July.

The Foreign Secretary proposes to be represented at the dinner by Baroness Young. Lord Young and Mr Jopling will also be invited.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

MS2BMR
apc



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 February 1986

STATE VISIT BY PRESIDENT VON WEIZSACKER

Thank you for your letter of 3 February conveying the Foreign Secretary's recommendation that President von Weizsacker be invited to address a Joint Session of both Houses of Parliament during his State Visit.

The Prime Minister agrees that this would be appropriate. She assumes that the address would be made in the Royal Gallery.

I should be grateful if you would set in train the necessary consultations with those concerned in Parliament and in the Palace.

Charles Powell

Colin Budd Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

C.R.B.
①



Prime Minister
Agree that President
von Weizsacker be

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 February 1986

invited to address a
Joint Session? (The King of Spain
Dear Charles, will have done so in April).

CDD
3/2
Yes
ms

State Visit by President von Weizsacker:

1-4 July 1986

The Foreign Secretary wishes to recommend strongly that President von Weizsacker be invited to address a Joint Session of both Houses of Parliament during his State Visit.

The exceptional distinction of such an address has been accorded in recent years to President Saragat, Willi Brandt (then Federal German Chancellor), President Reagan and President Mitterrand. King Juan Carlos, who like von Weizsacker is a non-executive Head of State, will, as you know, be similarly honoured this April.

The importance of the visit and its value for our relationship with one of our closest allies and Community partners need no emphasis. An address to Parliament would help make it the historic occasion both countries wish and would bring it to the public eye in a way few other events could. It is appropriate that von Weizsacker should be accorded the same privilege as President Mitterrand and King Juan Carlos and it would be seen unfavourably in Germany if he were not.

As one of the most distinguished German Parliamentarians von Weizsacker would carry the occasion well. He has impeccable English and is an accomplished speaker. It would be a particularly appropriate recognition of his long-standing association with and affection for Britain since the time of his studies at Oxford. I enclose a personality note.

If the Prime Minister is content, we shall set in train consultations with those concerned in the Palace and in Parliament.

Yours ever,
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

VON WEIZSÄCKER, DR RICHARD

Federal President.

Born 1920 in Stuttgart, the son of a career diplomat, Ernest von Weizsäcker, (who though not a Nazi was State Secretary at the Wilhelmstrasse 1938-43 and was sentenced by a US tribunal in 1949 for complicity in war crimes). His brother Carl Friedrich is an eminent physicist and philosopher. His grandfather was a close adviser to the Kaiser and once considered a possible successor to Bismarck.

After a period at Oxford in the family of a Balliol don, he was called up in 1938 and served with the infantry on the eastern front. Came within sight of Moscow in 1941. In 1945 he was among the troops cut off in East Prussia and evacuated to Denmark. When the surrender came he demobbed himself and went home.

Studied law at Grenoble and Göttingen, and helped to defend his father. Entered industry. Became a member of the board of Boehringer and Co at Ingelheim. President of the German Evangelical Church Conference 1964-70 and again 1979-81. Member of the Bundestag from 1969-81, and a Vice Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Party, 1972-79. Nominated to oppose Scheel in the Presidential election of 1974 and did far better than expected against an unbeatable candidate. Author of the party's programme of basic principles, agreed at the 1978 party conference. A Vice President of the Bundestag 1979-81. In the Bundestag he managed to stand above party political infighting. He came to epitomise the liberal socially conscious element in the CDU and clearly saw himself as a conservative with a duty to conciliate and integrate diverging elements of society.

Imported by the Berlin CDU, somewhat at the last moment, to lead the party into the 1979 Berlin elections, he failed to defeat the SPD/FDP coalition, but achieved a record vote for the CDU. When Stobbe fell in January 1981, Weizsäcker forced the other parties to agree to a dissolution. In the subsequent elections the CDU just failed to obtain an absolute majority. Weizsäcker owed his election as Governing Mayor in June 1981 to support from break away members of the FDP Parliamentary Party. Elected Deputy Chairman of the Federal CDU in May 1983: he resigned the post on becoming Federal President.

In Berlin he proved an outstanding success. He took over at a time of considerable disillusionment with the City's political establishment. He came to grips with the problems of the City, showing a depth of vision, wisdom and good sense. His successes were such that only he seemed able to guarantee a further CDU victory in the 1985 Berlin elections. So it was only after some delay and with reluctance that the Chancellor nominated him for the Federal Presidency. But he never had a real alternative. Opinion polls showed von Weizsäcker to be the clear popular favourite. Germans of all parties see him as someone who can integrate and conciliate, who stands above narrow party political interest. He was elected to the Federal Presidency in June 1984 when Carstens's period of office came to an end.

Despite a touch of vanity, von Weizsäcker exudes wisdom and good sense, and is an excellent speaker. An intellectual and philosopher with a conversational style to match, he is liberal in his views on both domestic policy and Ostpolitik, and plays an influential and beneficial national role on the side of moderation in his party. He openly admitted to a wish to make the Presidency a more political office. A number of speeches – including one criticising SDI – in his first year indicate that he intends to stick to this resolution. An old friend of Britain, who has given much time to the Deutsch-Englische Gesellschaft and the Konigswinter conference.

Married with four children. He speaks excellent, and his wife adequate, English. Although born a Freiherr (Baron) he prefers not to use his title.



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