10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

19 March 1980

Thank you for your letter of 14 March about the Franco British Council Conference in Bordeaux in September.

This is just to confirm that I would be very happy to speak at the opening of the Conference in the late afternoon on Friday, 19 September. I am happy to do so at either 4 p.m. or 5 p.m.; whichever time suits you best.

(sgd) Margaret Thatcher

The Rt. Hon. Lord Thomson of Monifieth.

Franco British Council BRITISH SECTION

Anglo-French Conference, Bordeaux, 19-21 September 1980

2 Clarendon Close London W2 2NS   Telephone 01-262 8959

The Prime Minister,
The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
10, Downing Street,
London, SW1

14th March 1980

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing about the arrangements for the Franco British
Council conference, which is being held in Bordeaux from
Friday, 19th September to Sunday, 21st September.   We are
all tremendously pleased and grateful that you and President
Giscard d'Estaing have been able to agree these dates and to
make the principal speeches at the conference.

I hope it may be possible for you and the President to speak
at the opening of the conference in the late afternoon of
Friday, 19th September, perhaps around 4 p.m. or 5 p.m.   In
this way you would assist the conference to get off to the best
possible start.   We have in mind that there should be a
reception immediately afterwards for all those participating
in the conference, which we hope it would be possible for you
and the President to attend.

I hasten to mention these suggestions now so that you may
have them in mind in connection with planning your main
programme of discussions between the President and yourself.
I might add that we are already having an excellent response
to the invitations and there is undoubtedly going to be a
high level of participation on both sides.

I am copying this letter to Peter Carrington.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Thomson

THE RT. HON. LORD THOMSON OF MONIFIETH,   PC

TofM/rg