

Subject

FM FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE 051243Z

PRIME MINISTER'S

DEDIP

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SECRET

SERIAL No. T12C/76

DESKBY 051330Z

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON TELNO 934 OF 5 MAY

M I P T

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER FROM
PRESIDENT FORD:

BEGINS

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I HAVE BEEN GIVING THOUGHT TO THE POSSIBLE VALUE OF ANOTHER SUMMIT MEETING SUCH AS WAS HELD LAST FALL AT RAMBOUILLET. IT IS MY TENTATIVE THOUGHT THAT IT MAY BE TIME TO REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS SINCE OUR EXCELLENT DISCUSSIONS IN NOVEMBER AND TO MAP FURTHER STEPS. SECRETARY KISSINGER DISCUSSED THIS IDEA IN GENERAL TERMS WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY WHEN THEY MET ON APRIL 23. I HAVE ALSO ASKED HIM TO EXPLORE IT WITH PRESIDENT GISCARD DURING HIS STOP IN PARIS ON MAY 7. I HAVE ASKED GEORGE SHULTZ TO DISCUSS THE IDEA WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT ON SUNDAY, MAY 9, AND I WONDERED WHETHER YOU MIGHT HAVE TIME TO SEE SHULTZ AS WELL, PERHAPS IN LONDON ON MONDAY, MAY 10. IF THIS IS INCONVENIENT, PERHAPS ONE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES COULD RECEIVE SHULTZ AT THAT TIME. SHULTZ WOULD BE PREPARED TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE AREAS FOR INCLUSION IN THE DISCUSSIONS, TIMING AND ALSO TO EXPRESS SOME OF MY CONCERNS ABOUT ITALY. I WOULD BE MOST ANXIOUS TO HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS AND HOPE THAT A BRIEF CALL BY GEORGE SHULTZ CAN BE ARRANGED.

WARM PERSONAL REGARDS,
GERALD R. FORD

ENDS
CROSLAND

P R I S E C

S E C R E T