

PRIME MINISTER

Chancellor Schmidt's Visit: 10/11 May

[A] I attach in the folder below the briefs for your discussions with Chancellor Schmidt on 10 and 11 May. I also attach a suggested programme for the visit. This minute goes through the programme in more detail and identifies some points on which it would be very helpful to have your decisions.

Briefing Meeting

You may find it useful to have a briefing meeting in advance of the visit, which would be attended by the Ministers and senior officials directly involved, in order to discuss the handling of the talks and raise any questions which you may have after reading the briefs. If you would like to do this, a possible time would be 17<sup>30</sup> on Wednesday 9 May (the meeting need not last for more than 45 minutes).

*Agreed mt.*

Arrival

Would you like to ask the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary to meet Chancellor Schmidt and the other German Ministers at the Airport on their arrival and escort them to No. 10?

*Yes please mt.*

There will be intense press interest in the visit and a large number of cameramen in Downing Street to photograph the Chancellor's arrival: it would be appropriate for you to meet Chancellor Schmidt at the Front Door and stand on the step with him for a minute or two for photographs. You could then bring him into the Front Hall for a more formal photocall. ✓

Talks

Your first session of talks with Chancellor Schmidt, immediately following his arrival, could either be tête à tête, with only note-takers present, or à quatre with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and Herr Genscher present as well. Which would you prefer? (If you prefer a tête à tête, the two Foreign Ministers could have their own tête à tête meeting in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at the same time.) Finance Ministers and (if you accept Sir John Hunt's recommendation that they should take

*See his minute at flag B*

/part)

part) Defence Ministers would also be having their own bilaterals during this period.

The main purpose of the plenary session of talks, which could be held in the Cabinet Room at 1030 on Friday 11 May and which would be attended by all the members of both delegations, will be to summarise the results of the various bilaterals between Ministers and to identify points for action which need to be followed up by Ministers.

Dinner

A guest list for your dinner for Chancellor Schmidt on Thursday 10 May is being submitted to you separately.

Would you like to make a short speech before proposing the Chancellor's health? In view of the publication of the Conservative Party's European Manifesto four days later, this could be a good occasion on which to set the tone and style for the Government's approach to EEC matters; against the possibility that you might wish to use it in this way, a draft speech with a European emphasis is in preparation and will be submitted to you separately.

*That's you.  
Has the Chancellor got a sense of humour?*

Lunch

The lunch on Friday 11 May will be much more of a working occasion (Ministers and officials, no wives) and it would be appropriate on this occasion to make a shorter speech with the emphasis on Anglo/German relations and bilateral matters. Draft speaking notes are in preparation.

Press Conference

The choice of the cinema in Millbank Tower for the Press Conference is dictated both by proximity and by the fact that good facilities for TV etc. are available there. If you agree, you and Chancellor Schmidt, with your Foreign Ministers and Press Secretaries, will be seated at a table on the stage, with the other Ministers from both sides seated on chairs just behind you. You would open the Press Conference with a short statement summarising the outcome of the talks (draft in preparation): Chancellor Schmidt

*short - speech. /would then*

would then reply with a similar statement and the rest of the Conference would be question and answer.

Chancellor Schmidt's Visit to Oxford

Ne I assume that, because of the pressure of other business, you will not wish to accompany Chancellor Schmidt to Oxford on the afternoon of 11 May in order to be present at the conferment of his honorary degree by the Chancellor of the University, Mr. Macmillan (although it would of course be very greatly appreciated if you were able to spare the time for this). If you cannot go, would you like to ask the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary or another Minister to escort the Chancellor to Oxford? This is not essential (no Minister accompanied Herr Brandt on a similar occasion a few years ago) but if a Minister can be spared it would be an appropriate courtesy.

Douglas Hand?

Bynd.

(Bryan Colledge)

4 May 1979

DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT, 10-11 MAY 1979

Thursday 10 May

- 1650 Chancellor Schmidt, Herr Genscher, Herr Matthoefer, Herr Apel plus Private Secretaries and advisers, arrive at Northolt.  
Met by Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.
- 1655 Helicopter to Kensington Palace Gardens
- 1710 Arrive Kensington Palace Gardens and drive (with police escort) to 10 Downing Street.
- 1730 Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher, escorted by Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, arrive at No. 10.  
Photocalls on front step and in Front Hall.  
Herr Matthoefer to No. 11 Downing Street for introductory session of talks with Chancellor of the Exchequer.  
Herr Apel to Ministry of Defence for talks with Defence Secretary.
- 1745 First session of talks in White Drawing Room: Prime Minister, Chancellor Schmidt, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and Herr Genscher.
- 1845 Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher leave No. 10 for the Carlton Tower Hotel to change for dinner.
- 1900 Chancellor Schmidt and his party return to No. 10.
- 2000 for Dinner for 66 guests (with wives) in State Dining Room  
2015 (black tie).  
Short speeches.
- 2300 approx. Chancellor Schmidt and his party take their leave.  
Overnight at Carlton Tower Hotel.

Friday 11 May

- 1030 Plenary session of talks at 10 Downing Street (Cabinet Room) attended by Ministers and officials of both delegations.
- 1145 Plenary session ends.  
Leave No. 10 by car for Millbank Tower
- 1200 Press Conference in Millbank Tower Cinema
- 1245 Return to No. 10 by car
- 1300 Lunch in State Dining Room for both delegations
- 1430 approx. Chancellor Schmidt takes his leave. Later, Chancellor Schmidt, escorted by the Minister of State, FCO, drives to Oxford for conferment of Honorary Degree.

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- 1730 Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher, escorted by Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, arrive at No.10.

Photocalls on front step and in Front Hall.

Herr Matthoefer to No. 11 Downing Street for introductory session of talks with Chancellor of the Exchequer. *Herr Anel to Minister of State for talks with Delegation Secretary.*

- 1745 First session of talks in White Drawing Room: *Prime Minister,* tête-à-tête or à quatre with Foreign Ministers. *Chancellor Schmidt, Foreign & Commonwealth Secretary and Herr Genscher.*
- 1845 Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher leave No. 10 for the Carlton Tower Hotel in order to change for dinner.
- 2000 for *Chancellor Schmidt and his party return to No. 10*  
2015 Dinner for 66 guests (with wives) in State Dining Room (black tie).

Short speeches

[After dinner: further private talk with Chancellor Schmidt if required.]

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- 1200 Press Conference in Millbank Tower Cinema
- 1245 Return to No. 10 by car
- 1300 Lunch in State Dining Room for both delegations
- 1430 *(approx)* Chancellor Schmidt takes his leave. Later, Chancellor Schmidt, escorted by the FRG Ambassador, drives to Oxford for conferment of Honorary Degree. *Minister of State, FCO,*