



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

21 August 1979

You have already approved 'X'.

Do you also agree to 'Y'?

By
22/8

No - defence Ministers
we always meeting, one
another. The charges

Dear Bryan,

Next Round of Anglo-German Consultations

delegation would be
MT
PC
G.H
and no-one
else.

As requested in your letter of 27 July we have consulted the Cabinet Office about Ministerial participation in the Anglo-German summit to be held in Bonn on 31 October.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary thinks it important that a powerful team should accompany the Prime Minister. This has been customary on previous occasions. In May this year, in addition to Lord Carrington, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Defence Secretary and the Lord Privy Seal were present for the Anglo-German consultations and on the last occasion when they were held in Germany, in October 1978, four Cabinet Ministers accompanied the Prime Minister's predecessor (the time before that, in April 1978 in London, there were five). Community questions will figure high on the agenda, especially the Budget, CAP and fisheries. Defence is also central to our relations with the FRG, and important decisions will be approaching (eg on TNF modernisation and tactical combat aircraft). Accordingly, Lord Carrington considers that it would be appropriate for the Defence Secretary to accompany the Prime Minister, in addition to himself and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the wake of Tokyo follow-up meetings and the Council of 9-10 October, energy will be at the forefront of Ministers' minds on both sides. The Prime Minister may therefore think that it would also be useful to include the Secretary of State for Energy. !!!

The possibility of including the Minister of Agriculture and the Trade and Industry Secretaries has also been considered, but Lord Carrington does not propose their attendance. As to the former, although Mr Walker's inclusion would normally be useful in the general context of agriculture, the EEC Fish Council, planned for 29-30 October, may end in a row, and this could make his participation awkward. As for Trade and Industry, junior Ministers from both these departments are already planning to visit the FRG in the autumn.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary considers that a Ministerial visit to Berlin would also be useful at this time. A Foreign Secretary has not visited Berlin, except during The Queen's visit, since 1976, and the last British Defence Minister to visit Berlin was Mr Mulley in August 1977. We do not recommend that the Prime Minister should visit the city on this occasion,

/ nor

B G Cartledge Esq



Y ||
 nor will it be possible for Lord Carrington to do so. But if Mr Pym attends the meeting in Bonn, we very much hope that he will be able to visit Berlin either immediately before or immediately afterwards; but we shall not take this further until the Prime Minister's team for Bonn has been decided.

why?
 As for official participation, we think that decisions on this can be left until September. Last year the normal practice was for those Ministers other than the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary to be accompanied by a Private Secretary and a Deputy Secretary. This year the Prime Minister will no doubt expect every effort to be made to keep the numbers of accompanying officials to the absolute minimum. *Yes.*

I am sending a copy of this letter to Martin Vile.

Yours ever,
Stephen

J S Wall

21 AUG 1979

