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Clare Kohl's with TK*

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGES  
SERIAL No. .... T 200/82

From Herr Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic  
of Germany

to

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP, Prime Minister

Bonn, 27th October, 1982

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you very much indeed for the most amicable welcome  
you gave me on October 19th.

In the meantime, I am happy to be in a position to be able  
to say that the agreement on steel exports between the EC  
and the US has brought a solution to a problem which was  
very crucial for all those involved.

You will have heard that the Federal Government has given  
its approval to the steel agreement with the US once the  
Commission of the EC had agreed to some special clauses resp.  
interpretations which seemed essential to us. I am very glad  
about this development which gives evidence of our readiness  
and our ability for solidarity with our partners in the EC,  
and is a first step towards an improvement of our trade  
relations with the US. Other steps will have to follow.

However, having finally come to a solution in this matter,  
we should certainly not forget the reasons for such an  
agreement on self-restraint. We will have to continue to make  
all possible efforts in order to stop this expensive and  
nonsensical race in subsidizing within the EC, and to strive  
for a situation which again allows a steel trade free of  
dirigistic measures.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you at our  
forthcoming consultations.

Yours sincerely,

Helmut Kohl.