

OPS

Subject filed on Germany,  
Anglo/German, Relations, Pt 2

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 188A/82

" Dear Margaret,

For the moment this is just a short word of thanks for our close co-operation.

Over the last two years we have held, I believe, some very intensive talks, and I shall always remember with pleasure your hospitality at Chequers.

In our talks we realized time and again how important it is for our two countries to work closely together. This imposes a special responsibility on the heads of Government, one which they can only fulfil if they know each other well on a personal level and also know about the constraints which affect their political action. For this very reason I had arranged with your predecessor over six years ago to hold regular Anglo-German consultations.

I think that we always made honest and substantial efforts for a Common European Policy. That was not always easy and has become all the less so since the development of the world economy has put increasingly threatening strains on our national economies in recent years.

It is nevertheless my impression that we succeeded time and again in meeting each other's views and, when it was necessary in the paramount interest of European solidarity, in subordinating our national interests. I believe that not only the respective governments know this, but that in the final analysis public opinion in our countries has learned more and more to appreciate the value of European solidarity.

With my best wishes for you personally and for your work in the future,

Yours sincerely

(sgd.) Helmut Schmidt "