

PRIME MINISTER

CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S VISIT 10-11 MAY

*ms*

*PA. Jan 11/11*

The purpose of this note is to take you through the arrangements for Chancellor Schmidt's visit step by step so that you can visualise it in advance.

The Chancellor, accompanied by Herr Genscher (Foreign Minister) and Herr Matthöfer (Finance Minister) will arrive outside No. 10 at 1730. There will be photographers outside in Downing Street and you will wish to pause for a minute or two outside the Front Door for a brief photocall. You could then lead the Chancellor inside for a further photocall in the front hall - I suggest you might be photographed with the Chancellor alone and then with the other UK and FRG Ministers. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will meet Herr Matthöfer in the front hall and take him through to No. 11 for his session of separate talks.

You will then conduct Chancellor Schmidt and Herr Genscher with Lord Carrington, upstairs to the White Drawing Room for your first session of talks. The Germans will have one notetaker with them and I shall take our note.

*[Below]*

I attach a card, based on your briefing meeting this afternoon, which you may like to have by you to remind you of the points which you could raise with Chancellor Schmidt during this initial session.

Would you like any refreshment to be served during this meeting? *They must be offered a drink - soft or alcoholic.*

At about 1845, you should wind up a discussion so that Chancellor Schmidt can take his leave and return to his hotel in order to change for dinner.

The German party and all your other guests will arrive at No. 10 at 2000, for dinner at 2015. During drinks before dinner, I shall try to make sure that as many of the guests as possible are introduced to you and Mr. Thatcher.

/I attach

I attach below the revised version of your speech, taking account of your own amendments to the first draft and including the two additional paragraphs at the end of the speech for which you asked.

Are you content that the speech as it now stands, minus the first sentence, should be released to the press tomorrow evening, embargoed for the time of delivery?

*Yes - as finally revised -*

After dinner, you may wish at a convenient moment to take Chancellor Schmidt to a sofa or corner table with Mr. Pym and/or Mr. Walker to have a private talk about defence matters and the CAP. The Chancellor is a late bird and is unlikely to be in any great hurry to leave.

On Friday, 11 May Chancellor Schmidt and his team will arrive at No. 10 just before 1030. You will meet him at the Front Door and escort him straight through to the Cabinet Room. There will be place cards on the Cabinet table to show members of both delegations where to sit. I have arranged for coffee to be served at 1100. You will probably have agreed with Chancellor Schmidt, during the previous evening, how the plenary session should be handled. One possibility would be for you to invite the Chancellor to give his views on East/West relations, which could lead into a general discussion. You will also wish to invite the Chancellor of the Exchequer to report on his separate talk with Herr Matthöfer. At the end of the session, you will wish to sum up and identify any points for follow-up action.

At 1145 the plenary session will end and you will take Chancellor Schmidt to his car outside the Front Door and, if you agree, travel with him to the Millbank Tower cinema for the Press Conference. You, the Chancellor and the other Ministers will be seated on the stage. Henry James is drafting a short opening statement for you and you could then invite Chancellor Schmidt to make one too. The Press Conference will then be open for question and answer.

/At about

At about 1245, you will return to the cars and drive back to No. 10.

The working lunch for the two delegations is at 1300 for 1430.

You will not wish to make a formal speech but it would be appropriate to make a few remarks with a bilateral emphasis and I attach some draft notes for your consideration.

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After lunch, Chancellor Schmidt will take his leave at the Front Door and Mr. Hurd (who will be at the lunch and whom you can then introduce to Chancellor Schmidt) will escort him for the rest of the day. The Chancellor will be travelling by helicopter to Oxford to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from the Chancellor of the University, Mr. Harold Macmillan.

Byr.

9 May 1979