

Ref. A0166

MR. CARTLEDGE

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Prime Minister
3/8 *3/8*

Lord Mountbatten

I received a telephone call this evening from Herr Schueler, the administrative head of the Chancellery in Bonn. He spoke to me in Sir John Hunt's absence. He said that Chancellor Schmidt had been deeply shocked by the murder of Lord Mountbatten, and he wished his personal sympathy and the sympathy of the whole German people to be conveyed to the Prime Minister. Herr Schueler went on to say that Chancellor Schmidt had envisaged that a member of his Cabinet and a high ranking Naval officer would attend the funeral service in Westminster Abbey. But he understood from the German Embassy in London that Lord Mountbatten had himself approved the details of the service and he would not wish to do anything which would go counter to Lord Mountbatten's wishes.

I am pursuing the question of representation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Lord Chamberlain's Office. It does not appear likely that there will be any problem about the kind of representation which Chancellor Schmidt envisaged. The purpose of this minute is therefore to convey Chancellor Schmidt's sentiments on the death of Lord Mountbatten.

M.V.
(M. J. Vile)

P.S. I have now heard that the German Ambassador has been told that Chancellor Schmidt's proposals for representation are entirely acceptable.

30th August, 1979