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cc: MOD

DK



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 May 1981

Visit of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic:
Tornado

I will be sending separately a copy of the record of the plenary session at Chequers yesterday.

The Prime Minister has told me that most of the issues which came up in her talks with Herr Schmidt were referred to at the plenary session. However there is one point which was not and which may be worth mentioning.

The Prime Minister raised the question of our wish to sell Tornado in one version or another to the Saudis. Chancellor Schmidt said that he himself had no objection to this. However the idea was politically unnegotiable in Germany at the moment. Opposition in the Bundestag would be too great.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Brian Norbury (Ministry of Defence).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

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