GRS 135
[redacted]IDENTIAL
FM BONN 021050Z OCT 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 821 OF 2 OCTOBER
INFO IMMEDIATE OTTAWA (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY)
INFO ROUTINE BMG BERLIN
INFO SAVING WASHINGTON PARIS UKREP BRUSSELS UKDEL NATO

GERMANY

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

ANGLO-GERMAN SUMMIT 28-29 OCTOBER.

1. CHANCELLOR KOHL MENTIONED IN TELEVISION INTERVIEWS LAST NIGHT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A CONGRATULATORY TELEPHONE CALL FROM THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER, AND THE POINT WAS PICKED UP IN OTHER MEDIA REPORTS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE ANGLO-GERMAN SUMMIT WOULD GO AHEAD.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER'S TELEPHONE CALL WAS CLEARLY APPRECIATED BY THE NEW CHANCELLOR. NO CALL FROM ANY OTHER HEAD OF GOVERNMENT WAS MENTIONED, ALTHOUGH KOHL ADDED THAT THE GERMAN-FRENCH SUMMIT (A WEEK BEFORE OURS) WOULD ALSO GO AHEAD.

3. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED PRESS ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SUMMIT SINCE KOHL REFERRED TO IT. I SUGGEST THAT, IF YOU OR WE DO RECEIVE THEM, THE REPLY SHOULD:-

(A) CONFIRM THE SUMMIT AND THE DATES

(B) EXPRESS HMG'S PLEASURE AT THIS EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO CONFER WITH THE NEW GERMAN GOVERNMENT

(C) SAY THAT DETAILED PLANNING FOR THE SUMMIT WILL NOW GO AHEAD.

FCO PLEASE PASS TO SAVING ADDRESSEES.

TAYLOR

NNNN

SENT AT 021111Z CMR

file

cc: Miss Stephens

Germany

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

23 July 1982

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO GERMANY

Thank you for your letters of 16 and 22 July.

The Prime Minister is prepared to extend her visit to Bonn for the Anglo-German Summit on 28/29 October in order to include a visit to Berlin. She was also prepared to stay on until 30 October in order to take up Chancellor Schmidt's invitation to call on him privately in Hamburg. But I see from your latest letter that Chancellor Schmidt has now discovered that he has an unbreakable engagement on that day. I therefore agree that Sir Jock Taylor should be asked to speak to the Chancellor's Office on the lines suggested in paragraph 2 of your letter of 22 July, and that detailed arrangements should be made after the holidays.

A J. COLES

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 July 1982

Dear John.

When I wrote on 16 July about the possibility of the Prime Minister visiting Berlin after the Anglo-German Summit on 28/29 October, I also reported that Chancellor Schmidt had suggested in a talk with Sir J Taylor that he would like to invite her to his house in Hamburg. We have since heard from Herr Schmidt's office that the Chancellor had spoken without having his diary commitments clearly in mind. He has an engagement on the afternoon of 29 October which could be cancelled if necessary, but on 30 October - the day the Prime Minister might most conveniently visit Hamburg if she also goes to Berlin - he has a commitment to attend a Party Conference in Saarbrücken.

In the circumstances the best thing to do might be to ask the Ambassador to tell the Chancellor's Office that the Prime Minister much appreciated the Chancellor's invitation to visit him in Hamburg, that she would very much like to do this if it proves practicable on this occasion and if not perhaps sometime in the future, and go on to suggest that we should see after the holidays how best to make arrangements.

Yours ever.

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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PRIME MINISTER

Visit to Germany: 28/29 October

You wished to see the diary in order to consider whether you could extend your visit for the Anglo-German Summit (28/29 October) to visit Berlin and then, at the private invitation of Chancellor Schmidt, Hamburg. This would involve you staying on until Saturday, 30 October.

The diary in October is quite light at the moment, apart from the Party Conference from 5 - 8 October.

On the other hand, you have the Opening of Parliament on 3 November, the Lord Mayor's Banquet on 15 November, a State Visit from 16 - 18 November, and a major speaking engagement in Glasgow on 26 November.

It still appears possible for you to spend the period 28/30 October in Germany, taking in Berlin and Hamburg. Since Chancellor Schmidt seems particularly keen that you should pay a private visit to his home in Hamburg, are you content to stay on until Saturday, 30 October?

A.J.C.

21 July, 1982.

10 DOWNING STREET

Caroline

Could Sp. have a note of relevant diary commitments?

A.L.C. 20/7

MR. COLES

Possible visit by the Prime Minister to Berlin

You asked me about the Prime Minister's diary for October. The diary in October is quite light at the moment other than the Party Conference from 5-8. The Prime Minister is quite right that November is heavy in that she has the Opening of Parliament on Wednesday 3rd; the Lord Mayor's Banquet on Monday 15th; a State Visit 16-18th and a further major speaking engagement in Glasgow on Friday 26th.

But I still feel a visit to Berlin and Hamburg would be possible on Saturday 30 October.

CJ.

20 July 1982

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Prime Minister

Following the Anglo/German summit in Bonn do you wish to visit :-
(a) Berlin
(b) Hamburg - to see Chancellor Schmidt privately ?
(no diary difficulties).

A.J.C. 19/7

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 July, 1982

Dear John,

Possible Visit by the Prime Minister to Berlin

In my letter of 11 February I passed on Lord Carrington's suggestion that the Prime Minister pay a short visit to Berlin after the autumn Anglo-German Summit. You replied on 15 February that the Prime Minister would bear the possibility in mind but did not wish to commit herself at that stage. As it has now been confirmed that the Summit will take place from early evening on 28 October until about lunchtime on 29 October, my Secretary of State would like to suggest that the Prime Minister give further thought to the possibility of paying a visit to Berlin thereafter.

As I said in my earlier letter, high level visits continue to be an important demonstration of the Allied commitment to Berlin. Since I wrote, President Reagan has visited the city and it is likely that President Mitterrand will also visit in 1983. Yet it is eleven years since a British Prime Minister went there. A visit would be particularly welcomed by the CDU Governing Mayor, Dr Richard von Weizsaecker, whose call on the Prime Minister on 2 April had to be cancelled at the last minute owing to the invasion of the Falklands.

The Prime Minister may also wish to consider the opportunity offered by Berlin as a forum for a major speech to a German audience. For example, HM Ambassador Bonn has suggested that in the wake of the Falklands conflict we could with advantage remind the Germans of some of the lessons about Britain that the crisis has highlighted. Although a suitable public platform could no doubt be created in Bonn for a speech on this theme, Berlin would be a more appropriate setting. A speech there could be expected to have maximum impact.

Chancellor Schmidt suggested to our Ambassador in Bonn on 14 July that the Prime Minister should visit him privately at his house in Hamburg after the Anglo-German Summit either on her way back from Berlin - if, as he very much hopes, she is able to go - or otherwise direct from Bonn. This is a marked and welcome invitation, and would be a useful chance to consolidate the gains of the Summit. Mr Pym very much hopes that the Prime Minister will agree to do this. If she does, we can consider timings in more detail later; one possibility would be to fly from Bonn to Berlin in the early afternoon of 29 October, spend the night in Berlin

/and

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and return to London via Hamburg the next day.

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street

16 JUL 1962

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HL

15 February 1982

Possible visit by the Prime Minister to Berlin

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 11 February, containing the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's suggestion that Mrs. Thatcher should pay a short visit to Berlin after the Anglo/German Summit in the autumn.

The Prime Minister will bear this possibility in mind but does not wish to commit herself to such a visit at present.

JOHN COLES

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Prime Minister

Agree to visit Berlin briefly after Bonn in the autumn?

A.J.C. 11/2

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

11 February 1982

Bear it in mind without committing ourselves at present

Dear John.

Possible visit by the Prime Minister to Berlin

My Secretary of State would like to suggest that the Prime Minister pay a short visit to Berlin after the autumn Anglo-German Summit. It is 11 years since a British Prime Minister last visited the city (Mr Heath in 1971).

For over three years the situation in and around Berlin has been quiet and the city has remained largely insulated from the East/West tension created by developments in Poland. But normalisation has brought its own problems. As Berlin fades from the public eye it becomes even more important that the allies continue to show their interest in its future. High-level visits remain a valuable demonstration of our commitment to the city. Sir Ian Gilmour visited in 1980 and Lord Carrington in 1981. A visit by the Prime Minister in 1982 would be a logical and natural next step.

A visit would be particularly welcomed by the present Governing Mayor, Dr Richard von Weizsaecker, who in May 1981 became the first CDU Governing Mayor for 25 years. The Prime Minister has agreed to see Dr von Weizsaecker on 2 April during his first official visit to London and the Governing Mayor can be expected to extend an invitation during his call.

The most convenient timing for a visit would be immediately after the autumn Anglo-German Summit in Bonn; the Prime Minister could fly on to Berlin in the evening and return to London the following day. For the Germans this arrangement would give the visit added significance as a demonstration of the ties between the FRG and Berlin. If the Prime Minister agrees to visit the city, we shall need to bear this in mind in fixing dates for the autumn summit.

Yours ever.

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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11 FEB 1982

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 November 1981

Anglo/German bilaterals

As you know, the Prime Minister has invited Chancellor Schmidt to visit this country in March for the next Anglo/German bilateral. I have discussed the dates with the Chancellor's office and we are agreed that the most suitable day would be Friday 19 March. The visit will begin that morning: the Germans will let us know later whether Chancellor Schmidt will stay on until the morning of 20 March.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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