

JLE

LM

Italy

PRIME MINISTER

ANGLO/ITALIAN SUMMIT

As you know, there are supposed to be two Anglo/Italian Summits each year. But we are in difficulty about a date in the first half of this year. The Italians recently proposed either the period 27 - 30 April or 18 - 21 May. But neither of these are convenient (see attached FCO letter).

The FCO would like to offer 1 June when both you and Lord Carrington are free. But I frankly do not think you should add to your foreign commitments in the first half of June. These include the Versailles Economic Summit, visit of President Reagan, the NATO Summit, and, if you decide to go, the Special Disarmament Session in New York. A visit to Rome for 1 June, if you had to leave on 31 May, would break into the Spring Holiday.

I suggest, therefore, that we offer the Italians a visit in July. The best day from the point of view of the diary would be ⁷28 July.

Agree that we may offer this?

A. J. COLES

15 March, 1982