

Mr Bullard

cc with...
10.



Admiral Sir R.A. Alexander
Secretary

PS

BRITISH EMBASSY,
PARIS.

7 November 1980

J L Bullard Esq CMG
DUSS
FCO

cc: PS
PS/LPS
PS/PUS
Sir A. Adland
Mr Ferguson
N.A.M.D.

P.N. has
seen
Paul

Dear Julian,

2. WED.

I think we already had this point in mind.

M10/11

1. When I saw Jacques Wahl yesterday we had some brief desultory talk about the US election result. Wahl made the usual French point about the need for the US to be stronger. He immediately went on to talk about the need for the European countries to stick together in dealing with the US. This led on to the question of Chancellor Schmidt's visit for dinner with President Giscard next Monday, the Prime Minister's visit to Bonn for the Anglo/German summit on 16/17 November and Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Washington on 20 November.

2. Wahl said that he thought Britain might have a particularly important role to play as the new US administration came into office. There seemed every reason to think that Mrs Thatcher personally, and the British Government as a whole, would get on well with President Reagan and his team. In that case the British Government might be able to help the American Government to understand European questions and attitudes better. It would be important that the 3 European heads of government should reach a good degree of understanding between themselves before contacts with the US Government developed. He hoped that Mrs Thatcher's visit to Bonn soon after Chancellor Schmidt dinner with President Giscard would help to serve this purpose.

Yours etc,

Reginald Hibbert

cc: HM Ambassador, Bonn
HM Ambassador, Washington