



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

31 December 1982

VISIT TO BONN

I am sorry not to have replied more quickly to your letter of 4 November about the timing of a visit by me to Bonn. I agree that the meetings with Teltschick and Zeller, in the margins of the Prime Minister's visit to Bonn, removed the urgency of a further visit by me, and I certainly would not want to suggest one while the officials in the Chancellery are busy with the preparation for the German elections.

I had the opportunity to discuss this matter briefly with Zeller in the margins of the Heads of Government meeting in Copenhagen. The earliest dates I could suggest, which would be convenient to me and were not ruled out by the pre-occupations with the election at the German end, were Friday 11 March or Friday 15 April. I left it with Zeller to consider these.

There is no hurry about this. I would be quite happy to arrange a visit on one of these two dates at short notice if it looked as if there were some useful business to do. Friday 11 March would be ten days before the Brussels Summit and Friday 15 April is a week before Chancellor Kohl's visit over here. On either of those occasions there might be some useful preliminary exchanges we could have, if only about subjects which Chancellor Kohl and the Prime Minister might wish to discuss.

I am not asking you to take any immediate action, but if you are in contact with Teltschick and Zeller there would be no harm in your showing yourself to be aware that I have suggested these dates. I will have another opportunity to discuss them direct, when Chancellor Kohl comes over to Chequers at the beginning of February. I also told Zeller that we would very much like to welcome Teltschick here if he could spare some time immediately before or after the bilaterals in April, so that we could reciprocate by showing him something about the way in which our system works. Again, I will mention this to him or Zeller when they come over for the February meeting.

I am copying this letter to Wood (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

E. E. R. DILLER

C.L.G. Mallaby, Esq.



HM Minister

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Your reference

Our reference

Date 4 November 1982

*Dear Robin*

VISIT TO BONN

You met Teltschick and Zeller in the Federal Chancellor's Office during the Anglo-German consultations on 28-29 October. That does not make a visit under your own steam superfluous. But you may think that it affects the urgency.

2. From this end, I judge that minds are concentrated on the elections scheduled for 6 March. While the present team of officials may well remain in the Federal Chancellor's Office after the elections, that is not a foregone conclusion.

3. If we pressed Teltschick about an early visit, I think he would try to be accommodating. But, subject to any talks you may have had with him while you were here, I incline to the view that the best moment for you to come would be between the Federal elections and the Anglo-German consultations in London in the second half of April. In, say, late March there would anyway be specific things to discuss about the consultations. Shall I make a tentative suggestion to Teltschick?

*Yours ever*  
*Christopher Mallaby*  
C L G Mallaby

Copy to A M Wood Esq  
WED FCO

Germany: Anglo Relations

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12 NOV 1982

