

Met the news.

HU

26 January 1983

This is just to record that the Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 24 January about bilateral consultations.

Tim Flesher

Miss Jane Ridley,  
Ministry of Defence.

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Germany: Chanc Kohl 1/77  
Italy: Mr Fantani 2/82  
Netherlands: Mr Lubbers 11/79  
Econ. Pol: Williams  
Econ. S. M. 11  
\* USA: Visit of V-Pres. Bush 6/81



Prime Minister

To note.

A.S.C. 25/1

*Handwritten signature*

\* Original minute  
MO 14/3

PRIME MINISTER

BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary copied to me his helpful minute of 12th January about objectives for our forthcoming bilateral consultations with Allies. I agree with his proposed approach, but I would like to add a gloss on two specific points.

2. First, as regards the Genscher/Colombo proposals, I assume that we remain of the view that any discussions of security questions in this context should not go into issues which are properly matters for NATO. We shall need to watch this however much Continental rhetoric we are asked to swallow.

3. Secondly, I agree that the handling of East-West economic relations and the control of technology transfer will be particularly difficult in the aftermath of the pipeline dispute. We will need to impress on our European allies that the Americans mean business in this area and we need to be seen to be pulling our weight in the various studies envisaged. The programme of studies by its very scale offers a considerable potential for further exacerbating relations between the Americans and the Europeans.

4. I am sending copies to OD colleagues and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Handwritten initials*

24th January 1983

Ministry of Defence