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MR COLES

London Economic Summit: Meeting with Mr Trudeau

Roger Bone wrote to you on 29 March about the Canadian request for a bilateral meeting between the Prime Minister and Mr Trudeau at the time of the London Economic Summit. When a Canadian advance team was in London earlier this week they made it clear that they hoped the Prime Minister would be able to see Mr Trudeau sometime around 3 June and that Mr Trudeau would then go to France for the D-Day celebrations and stay over there until 7 June, when he would fly into Gatwick along with the other Summit participants, except for President Reagan and Mr Nakasone.

2. From the point of view of the smooth operation of these greetings ceremonies, therefore, it would be a considerable advantage if the Prime Minister could see Mr Trudeau on 3 or 4 June - lunch on 4 June would certainly suit the Canadians if the Prime Minister was prepared to offer it. This preliminary informal visit would be sufficiently in advance of Mr Trudeau's subsequent return for the Summit on 7 June to the formal greeting ceremony at Kensington Palace Gardens to be delayed until then.

3. A fall-back position would, of course, be to set aside time during the Summit for a bilateral meeting with Mr Trudeau, but this would obviously be less satisfactory for both sides. What we want to avoid is Mr Trudeau coming in early for the Summit after the D-Day ceremonies, so that a separate arrival ceremony would have to be staged for him. So far the Canadians have not suggested this.

*with AJC?*

*Carol Bowdery*  
PP. R P HATFIELD

30 March 1984