



Free

cc PC

leg

Policy

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

LONDON ECONOMIC SUMMIT: GERMAN THIRD MINISTER

At the Prime Minister's meeting today on the London Economic Summit, there was some discussion of your minute of 9 May and the proposed message from the Prime Minister to the Federal German Chancellor which you annexed.

The Prime Minister has now approved the attached revised version of this message. I should be grateful if you could arrange for its despatch.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Mr. Bone (FCO) and Mr. Peretz (HM Treasury).

A. J. COLES

10 May, 1984

NR

010

Prime Minister.

①

We must try to settle this matter now.

2. Agree message to Chancellor Kohl?

A.J.C. $\frac{9}{5}$.

Ref. A084/1377

MR COLES

London Economic Summit: German Third Minister

--- As we agreed, I enclose a draft message for the Prime Minister to send to Chancellor Kohl to follow up their discussion at Chequers.

2. The draft, as you will see, spells out the arguments, suggests some ways as a compromise in which Lambsdorff could have some role at the Summit and even hints at the possibility that he could sit in the German official's chair at the Finance Ministers' meeting at Lancaster House, though I do not think we should suggest this ourselves.

3. The Chancellor of the Exchequer agrees with the proposals in the draft message. I hope the message can go fairly soon. I have recently had another message from my German opposite number and it is clear that the Germans, like us, want decisions to be made as soon as possible.

REA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

9 May 1984

If it is only Germany to open who have the pattern of Finance Ministers -

Surely we can lay two under pattern. Who objects to that? no

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO
THE FEDERAL GERMAN CHANCELLOR

We discussed briefly at Chequers the question of the number of Ministers who will accompany Heads of Delegation to the London Summit in June. ~~You said that~~ ^{We agreed} ~~you understood~~ that there would be only Heads of State or Government plus two Ministers at plenary meetings and meals. ^{you suggested} ~~but~~ that for the separate meals and meetings of Finance Ministers it should be possible to add another chair to the table ^{to provide for another} ~~German Minister.~~

~~Only you can decide the composition of the German team.~~ The trouble is, I am afraid, that a number of our colleagues are ^{concerned} ~~very sensitive on the point~~ that everything done at Summits should be on a basis of parity between national delegations, ~~so that if you were to insist on having two Ministers instead of one at any event, others would follow.~~ The Japanese have made it quite clear to us that if you decide to bring more than two Ministers with you to London their MITI Minister will also come. We would be on weak ground in limiting any additions to you and the Japanese, because other countries have divided economic responsibilities and there are many Ministers, Ministers of State and senior officials (the dividing line is sometimes thin) who would like to be included in Summit functions.

(and we should of course be delighted to see him)

If you feel that Count Lambsdorff should come to London in June, ~~therefore~~, as well as Dr Stoltenberg, I hope you will agree that they should alternate at Nigel Lawson's first two working meals (dinner on Thursday 7 June and lunch on Friday 8 June). Nigel will try to tailor the topics for discussion accordingly. The Japanese, at least, would then follow the same pattern. The third meal, Nigel's dinner on the second night, 8 June, will be at the Bank of England. He and the Governor intend to invite two representatives per delegation on this occasion - normally the Finance Minister accompanied by a senior official dealing with financial matters. If you wished both German Ministers to attend, instead of one Minister and one senior official, this would of course be perfectly acceptable.

As far as the Finance Ministers' meeting planned for the morning of 8 June is concerned at Lancaster House, I am afraid that we have been able to make provision (seats, headphones etc) for only one place per delegation at the table, and one seat for a senior adviser/notetaker at the side of the room. It is clearly for you to decide by whom the Federal Republic of Germany is to be represented at the meeting.

I hope that what I am proposing will commend itself to you as a reasonable solution to the problem. If so, I should be very grateful if you could let me know as soon as possible, since the Japanese and others will need to be told.