

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T166/84



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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

28 September, 1984

My dear Chancellor

I am asking John Gummer, our Party Chairman, to bring you this private message.

Let me say first how grateful I am to you for seeing him and his colleagues. There is still scope for our Parties to work more closely together, both internationally and in the European Parliament, and I hope the meeting being held under the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung's auspices will give an impetus to this.

I was pleased, as I am sure you were, by the success of Exercise Lionheart. It was very impressive militarily and will have been an unmistakable message to the Russians of continuing steadfastness and determination in our Alliance. The press and television coverage in this country was particularly good, giving a reassuring picture of easy rapport between the British troops taking part in the exercise and your fellow countrymen going about their daily lives.

On one particular matter, I should like you to know how sorry I am personally that it was not possible for Professor Carstens to lead the Committee on European Institutions which we set up at Fontainebleau. There is no doubt at all that he would have made a most distinguished and creative contribution to its work - a contribution which I hope he will still make through other channels.

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We have an opportunity this coming week to settle once and for all the remaining problems on the Community Budget on which we made substantial progress at Fontainebleau. If we can do so, the process which you started at the Stuttgart European Council will be brought to a successful conclusion - and we shall all be in debt to your vision and statesmanship. We shall also be able to get down to dealing more imaginatively with the other problems pressing in upon the Community. I am looking forward to discussing these with you, as well as to hearing your assessment of the prospects for East/West relations, when we meet on 2 November.

With best wishes to you and to your wife.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Herr Dr. Helmut Kohl.

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 September, 1984

The Prime Minister understands that Mr. Gummer will see Chancellor Kohl during his visit to Bonn next week. The Prime Minister would be grateful if Mr. Gummer could take the opportunity to hand the enclosed personal message to Dr. Kohl. The purpose is simply a friendly gesture, to maintain her good relations with him.

(C.D. Powell)

A. Galloway, Esq.,
Paymaster General's Office