

Subject

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T185/84



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7 November 1984

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My dear Chancellor,

I am sorry that we were not able to hold our talks as planned on 2 November. But I am pleased to hear that you are able to agree to my proposal of 18 January; and we shall of course meet before then at the European Council.

I was very grateful for the kind remarks made by your Government spokesman about my interview with Die Welt.

There is much of importance for us to discuss. In particular I want to exchange views on the proposals now being made for the development of the Community. I was able to discuss this with Jacques Delors during his visit to London last month and was encouraged to find him determined to try to move forward in practical ways.

I am asking Julian Bullard to keep in close touch with your people about the work now going on in the Dooge Committee. We are studying the proposals put forward by Jurgen Ruhfus. You and I both want to improve the workings of political cooperation and to see it become a matter not just of making declarations but of acting together. We shall be making a positive contribution to the Committee's work on this, and to the discussion of ideas on other aspects of the Community's development. I expect you will have seen the ideas which Malcolm Rifkind has put forward on

the internal market. As you know I attach particular importance to this and I am glad these proposals have been well received. A real advance in this area would have an enormous impact in terms of wealth and job creation and in making a reality of the Community for our people and for the businesses that can create the new jobs we all want.

The other point to which, as you know, I attach the greatest importance is the need to improve European defence cooperation. I thought the WEU meeting in Rome under Herr Genscher's chairmanship was a useful step forward. I welcomed in particular the emphasis that was laid there on the determination of all the WEU partners to strengthen the European pillar of the Alliance. This was a timely reaffirmation of the importance of the Brussels Treaty and therefore of the commitment of forces to the defence of Europe on which I take a good deal of pride in the British record. This is a field in which I think we can claim that our contribution to European unity is second to none among the seven WEU members.

I look forward to discussing all this with you. In the meantime I send you my best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Raymond D. White

His Excellency Herr Dr Helmut Kohl