



cc FCO

RH

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

6 August 1981

Dear Sir Philip,

Many thanks for your letter of 3 August. I do indeed hope that my remarks to the Franco British Council next May need not be long, given my other speaking commitments that month, but I hope to be able to say a few positive words about Anglo/French relations. As you say, it would be best if my office and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office were to discuss all this with you in more detail after the September Summit.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Philip de Zulueta

HL



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

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You have agreed to speak at the Franco-British Council on 15 May next year, but not to make a major speech. This is because you have to speak to the Scottish Conservative Conference on 14 May, and to the Womens Conference on 26 May. Hence the somewhat discouraging tone of my suggested reply to Sir Philip de Zuleta below.

WKS

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Pro
G.R.

Franco British Council **BRITISH SECTION**

2 Clarendon Close London W2 2NS Telephone 01-262 8959

3rd August, 1981.

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Prime Minister

Franco British Council: Meeting in Edinburgh - May 1982

Thank you very much for your letter of July 27th. I was extremely glad to hear subsequently that you had had a very positive response from President Mitterrand and that he indicated that he would ensure that at least M. Mauroy came to the meeting in May: also that he would arrange to appoint a French Chairman of the Council before your Summit meeting on September 10th and 11th. This is all good news and I shall continue with our preliminary preparations, hoping to know who the new French Chairman is in fairly early September.

As regards your own kind agreement to speak at the Conference I do, of course, understand the difficulty of making two major speeches so close together. I assume that in fact M. Mauroy, or President Mitterrand, if indeed the latter is able to come, would want to make a fairly substantial speech, rather as you did in Bordeaux, and that your remarks need therefore not be long. Perhaps, however, it will be possible for you to make a positive reference to Anglo French relations although not at great length. Anyway it looks as though this should be discussed further after the September Summit.

Yours sincerely
Philip de Zurenda

- 4 AUG 1981

