



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 March 1983

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New York

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Prime Minister

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Franco-British Council

You told me yesterday that the Prime Minister is expecting to meet Sir Philip and Lady de Zulueta tomorrow evening and that you would welcome a short note on the Franco-British Council.

The Council have staged two major Franco-British Conferences and the Prime Minister has attended both, one at Bordeaux in September 1980 and the other in Edinburgh last May. (Sir Philip succeeded Lord Thomson of Monifieth as Chairman of the British Section between these two events).

The Council was established by the French and British Governments after The Queen's State Visit to France in 1972. It has traditionally organised a couple of seminars each year: the last was on cable television and broadcasting by satellite, late last year, and the next will bring together British and French trade unionists next month. The Council also supports other Anglo/French activities in a more general way, including through an award scheme and the sponsoring of a research fellowship.

The Council is almost entirely dependent on HMG for its finance. This year's grant amounted to £40,000 towards the Council's ordinary activities and £31,000 towards the Edinburgh Conference.

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

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