



Ref. A085/1116

MR POWELL*Disputed  
COA*Bonn Economic Summit: Political Declaration

— You may have seen from a recent telegram from Bonn that the Germans found the revised draft that we produced for the proposed political declaration from the Bonn Economic Summit was highly acceptable (with one or two changes) and proposed to base further discussion on that draft.

2. We have now received a revised German text. A copy is --- attached herewith.

— 3. It is indeed very close to the draft which the Prime Minister approved and which you sent to Herr Teltschik on 28 March. The main changes are as follows:

a. In paragraph 4 the Germans have added two sentences at the end. The first refers to the CSCE process in words which seem innocuous, though they represent the triumph of hope over experience. The second brings back a reference to the unification of Germany which, on the Prime Minister's instruction, we had deliberately omitted from our draft. I do not think that the words will do as they stand; but it looks as if the Federal Chancellor will attach much importance to including some reference, and I shall therefore go to Washington tomorrow with forms of words which would in effect repeat what we have said in the past. The sentence might read, for example: "We look forward to further development in Europe which will bring about a state of peace in which a German nation, exercising *free* self-determination, need no longer be divided against its will".





[Camp David language]

b. In paragraph 5, dealing with arms control and disarmament, the Germans have added a sentence which reads: "we do not seek superiority". That seems acceptable.

c. In paragraph 6, the Germans have added at the end a sentence referring to "genuine non-alignment", which again seems unobjectionable.

4. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Private Secretary to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.

*Carol Bowdery* .

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

*(Dictated by Sir Robert Armstrong  
and signed in his absence)*

18 April 1985



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Bonn Economic Summit: Political Declaration

German Draft Text

POLITICAL DECLARATION ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END  
OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The Heads of State of Governments of Canada, the French Republic, the Federal Republic of German, the Republic of Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States, meeting together in Bonn on the eve of the Fortieth Anniversary of the end of the Second World War, remember in grief all those who lost their lives in that time, whether by acts of war or as victims of inhumanity, repression and tyranny. We acknowledge the duty we owe to their memories, and to all those who follow after them, to uphold peace, freedom and justice in our countries and in the world.

2. We have learned the lessons of history. The end of the War marked a new beginning. As the sounds of battle ceased, we all tackled the tasks of physical reconstruction and moral and spiritual renewal. Among us, the victors extended hands of reconciliation and support to the vanquished. Today, linked in a peaceful, secure and lasting friendship, we share in all our seven countries a commitment to freedom and to democratic rights and principles. We are proud that the Governments of our countries owe their legitimacy to the will of our peoples expressed in free elections. We are proud that our people are free to say and write what they will, to



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practise the religions they profess, and to travel where they will. We are committed to assuring the maintenance of societies in which individual initiative and enterprise may flourish and the ideas of social justice, obligations and rights may be pursued.

3. We recognise that we can secure those aims, and meet both the opportunities and the challenges presented by technological and industrial change, more effectively in partnership than on our own. In Europe, a community of like-minded nations, committed to freedom with responsibility and enterprise, is growing in number, strength and prosperity. The nations of the Pacific region are drawing closer together. The partnership of North America, Europe and Japan is a guarantee of peace and stability in the world.

4. Other nations that shared with ours in the sacrifices of the Second World War are divided from us by fundamental differences of political systems. We deplore the division in Europe that is the consequence of those differences and, in our commitment to the ideals of peace, freedom, and self determination, we seek by peaceful means to lower the barriers that have arisen among and within the peoples of Europe. We believe that the CSCE-process provides a promising opportunity to increase confidence and co-operation among East and West. We express the expectation that the further development in Europe will



bring about a state of peace in Europe in which the German people will regain its unity through free self-determination.

5. According to the charter of the United Nations, all countries have a joint responsibility to maintain peace and security, and to this end refrain from the threat and use of force. We welcome dialogue and seek understanding and long-term co-operation across the barriers that divide us. We are committed to the search for balanced and verifiable agreements on arms reductions and disarmament, in the fields of strategic nuclear weapons and intermediate-range nuclear forces, with regard to outer space, in chemical weapons and in conventional forces. We do not seek superiority. Our goal is peace with the minimum of armaments required to assure security. We seek a stable balance at the lowest possible levels of forces.

6. We shall continue to seek to work with the developing countries, so as to help them to fight hunger and disease, to build free and prosperous societies, and to take their part in the community of nations committed to peace and freedom. We respect genuine non-alignment as an important contribution to international security and peace.

7. So, as we look back to the sacrifices of the Second World War and the common experience of 40 years of peace



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and freedom, we dedicate ourselves and our countries anew to the creation of a world in which all peoples enjoy the blessings of peace, of justice, and of freedom from oppression, want and fear, a world in which individuals are able to fulfil their responsibilities for themselves, to their families and to their communities, a world in which all nations, large and small, combine to work together for a better future for all mankind.

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