



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 September 1987

(Copied to GERMANY:
visits of Chancellor
Kohl: Pt 10.)

Dear Charles,

Anglo-French and Anglo-German Summits

Following their postponement this autumn, the next formal summits with France and Germany are due to take place at the beginning of 1988. Since both are to be held in London, it is for us to propose dates, and since diaries fill up rapidly, the sooner we can do this, the better.

Fri 22 Jan
or
Mon. 25 Jan

As you know, the French Presidential elections are expected to take place in May. It will be important to hold the summit in good time before the official campaigning gets under way. This suggests an early date, ideally before the end of January, which would still be 14 months after the last full summit.

Mon 22 Feb

No similar factors affect the timing of the next Anglo-German summit: the only Land election scheduled for 1988 (Baden Wuerttemberg) will take place in March. But the last full summit took place in September 1986 and the Germans will attach importance to an early date in 1988. (There is already some disappointment in Bonn that the pattern of two Anglo-German summits a year has slipped to annual meetings, even if supplemented by a number of bilaterals between the Prime Minister and Chancellor Kohl. Inevitably, the Germans compare this unfavourably with the regular six monthly Franco-German summits with frequent meetings in between).

Whether EC subjects appear high on the agenda of both summits will depend on the outcome of Copenhagen. But it would in any case be useful to meet the Germans early on in their Presidency in order to influence their handling of Community business.

I should be grateful if you would let me know which dates are available, so that we can instruct Paris and Bonn to put them to the French and Germans. For the sake of completeness, I should add that an Anglo-Italian summit will also need to be fitted into the first few months of 1988. But, since this will take place in Italy, it is for the Italians to propose dates.

Yours ever, *L. Parker*

(L. Parker)
Private Secretary

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PMM AHP

cc P.C.

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*Copied to
GERMANY: VISITS
by Chancellor
30 September 1987 Kohl:
Pt 10*

From the Private Secretary

ANGLO-FRENCH AND ANGLO-GERMAN SUMMITS

Thank you for your letter of 28 September about dates for the Anglo-French and Anglo-German summits. We could offer Friday 22 January or Monday 25 January for the Anglo-French summit; and Monday 22 February for the Anglo-German summit. I should be grateful if you could propose these dates.

C. D. Powell

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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