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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

11 August 1986

*Should we postpone
the meeting? or not
Have any other
thoughts present
not*

Dear Tim,

Per Minute

To 200

JR 12/8

ANGLO/GERMAN SUMMIT, 16 SEPTEMBER: PARTICIPATION

As you know, arrangements are in hand for the Prime Minister, Defence Secretary and Foreign Secretary to attend the Anglo/German Summit in Bonn on 16 September. The Germans are now considering which, if any, other Ministers might be invited to participate. You and others may find it helpful to have a note setting out the present position.

On past form, Finance (Mr Lawson/Herr Stoltenberg) and Trade and Industry Ministers (Mr Channon/Herr Bangemann) would be invited. It is, however, already clear that it will not be possible for any of these Ministers to attend on 16 September. This is also true of Interior Ministers (Mr Hurd/Herr Zimmermann). It now seems likely that the Germans will propose participation by Environment Ministers. The newly appointed Environment Minister, Wallmann, is keen to establish himself in his new portfolio and has expressed a strong interest in participating in the Summit. Mr Ridley, however, has other commitments that day which he is reluctant to break. Although Mr Ridley has not yet been consulted, I understand that he would probably suggest that Mr Waldegrave, currently President of the Environment Council, should attend in his place if this was acceptable to the Prime Minister. We would expect the Germans to be content with this.

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It is also possible that the Germans may make other suggestions, possibly Research (Herr Riesenhuber) or Junior Trade Ministers. Both Mr Pattie and Mr Clark have existing engagements overseas which would be difficult to rearrange.

There will be a meeting at Ministerial level between the CDU and the Conservative Party on 17 September in which Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Tebbit will take part. The German Ministerial participants are expected to be Finance Minister Stoltenberg, Research Minister Riesenhuber and Mrs Chalker's counterpart at the Auswärtiges Amt, Stavenhagen. Mr Tebbit is meeting, separately, Chancellor Kohl; the President of the Bundestag (Dr Jenninger); and the CDU Secretary General (Herr Geissler).

I shall write again when the Germans have given a clearer indication of their intentions. As Chancellor Kohl will be on holiday until 25 August we are unlikely to hear much before then.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries of the Secretaries of State for Defence, Trade and Industry, the Environment, and of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Home Secretary and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours Sincerely,

David Reddaway

David Reddaway
Private Secretary to
Baroness Young