

Ref: B05938

MR ALEXANDER

cc Mr Franklin
Mr Wright
Mr Walden, FCO
Mr Burns, FCO
Mr Bullard, FCO

Chancellor Schmidt

In Sir Robert Armstrong's absence, Herr von Staden of the Bundeskanzleramt telephoned me this morning. The Chancellor had just finished informing a meeting of his Cabinet that he had a few days ago received an invitation (or rather formal confirmation of an invitation) to visit Moscow this summer. He wished the Prime Minister to know of this at the earliest possible moment, but had felt obliged to inform his own Cabinet first. He was now similarly informing President Carter and President Giscard.

2. The Chancellor had not replied to the invitation. The Germans would first wish to consult the British, French and American Governments. They would be in touch with us about these consultations, which would probably be handled through Foreign Ministry channels.

3. I thanked Herr von Staden and promised to inform the Prime Minister immediately. I felt sure that she would much appreciate the Chancellor's courtesy.

16th April 1980

R L WADE-GERY

He can't possibly go.
and

Prime Minister

Chancellor Schmidt is evidently tempted. It seems rather extraordinary that he should consider going at a time when he is wishing his athletes to boycott the Olympics!

Reut - 16/4

R. L. Wade-Gery



16 APR 1980



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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 329 OF 16 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO

INFO ROUTINE PARIS, UKDEL VIENNA, THE HAGUE, BRUSSELS AND ROME

POSSIBLE VISIT BY CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT TO MOSCOW

1. THE GOVERNMENT DEPUTY SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR LAST WEEK DELIVERED AN INVITATION TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT TO VISIT MOSCOW IN THE EARLY SUMMER. GRUNEWALD SAID THAT NO REPLY HAD YET BEEN SENT TO THIS INVITATION. A NUMBER OF THE ALLIES HAD BEEN INFORMED OF IT BUT SO FAR THEY HAD EXPRESSED NO REACTION.

*They have not
had much
chance to do so.*

GOODALL

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

*I hope we
say 'No'
very firmly*

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17 April 1980

Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Moscow

The Prime Minister has seen Mr. Wade-Gery's minute to me of 16 April on this subject. She has expressed the strong hope that Chancellor Schmidt will decide to decline the Soviet invitation to visit Moscow.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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