

CONFIDENTIAL

bcc: Mr Alexander
No 10

cc Germany

Visit of Schmidt
to Moscow

h. Paul

- 2/4

Private Secretary

GADELOUPE II

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1. At the end of his conversation with the Prime Minister on 16 April Dr Kissinger expressed surprise that no attempt had been made to organise a second 4 power summit meeting on the model of Guadeloupe. The Prime Minister is recorded as saying that she would reflect on this point. Mr Alexander has invited FCO advice.
 2. The idea is open to all the usual objections: risk of excessive expectations leading to disappointment, offence to those not invited etc. Certainly Italy, Canada and Japan may feel sore at having got in on the Venice Group only to be up-staged by a second Guadeloupe.
 3. All the same I find Dr Kissinger's suggestion attractive. The announcement alone could do something to reduce Trans-Atlantic disunity, of which we have seen so many signs recently. The task of preparing for a summit would have a steadying effect in the 4 capitals. And one hopes that the meeting itself would produce something valuable.
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4. As to how to explain matters to the uninvited, perhaps we could make use of Chancellor's Schmidt's request for advice on how to reply to the invitation to him to visit Moscow this summer. The 3 Heads of Government whom he has consulted about this are the 3 who would be present at Guadeloupe II. We could take the line that Chancellor Schmidt's approach has crystallised the idea of a second meeting of this kind and made it natural to bring together the German Chancellor with the representatives of the 3 Western powers holding special responsibility for Berlin and Germany as a whole. And Chancellor Schmidt might find it easier to reply to the invitation, whether positively or negatively, with a Quadripartite summit behind him.
 5. In the absence this afternoon of the PUS and Sir D Maitland I am sending you this minute direct. If the Secretary of State thought the idea worth pursuing, he might wish to hold a small meeting on Monday morning, and perhaps to speak to the Prime Minister after that.

J L Bullard

18 April 1980

J L Bullard

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