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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

26 November 1986

CHANCELLOR KOHL

I have seen a copy of Bonn telegram number 991 in which Sir Julian Bullard suggests that he might float with Chancellor Kohl on 4 December the possibility of inviting him to pay a rather longer and less formal visit to Britain next year. I have discussed this with the Prime Minister who would prefer not to be committed to such a visit at this stage, at least until we have a clearer idea of other competing demands for visits from abroad next year.

I should be grateful, therefore, if you could tell Sir Julian Bullard that the Prime Minister would not wish him to raise this matter when he sees the Federal Chancellor.

(C. D. POWELL)

GA

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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I would
rather not
agree -
To, much or not



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

I am not
quite clear whether
you:

(a) agree with me that
you don't want to
commit yourself to a
full-scale visit by Kohl
next year. (I don't think
he is a great electoral
asset here); or

(b) agree with Julian
that we should invite him.

Prefer (a) or (b)? CDP 25/xi

GRS 202

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FM BONN

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 991

OF 201630Z NOVEMBER 86

MIPT: CALL ON CHANCELLOR KOHL: 4 DECEMBER

FOLLOWING FOR WED

1. AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, IT WOULD HELP ME VERY MUCH IF IT COULD BE GIVEN A FEW SENTENCES TO SAY TO KOHL ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S BEHALF.

2. I WONDER IF THE TIME HAS NOT COME, BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF THEIR JOINT VISIT TO BFG IN SEPTEMBER, FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO INVITE KOHL TO MAKE A RATHER LONGER AND LESS FORMAL VISIT TO BRITAIN THAN IS POSSIBLE DURING BILATERAL OR INTERNATIONAL SUMMITS? A VISIT OF TWO DAYS INCLUDING TRAVEL WOULD ALLOW TIME FOR US TO SHOW HIM ASPECTS OF BRITAIN WHICH HE IS ALMOST CERTAINLY UNAWARE OF, AND ALSO FOR AN OVERNIGHT STAY IN AGREEABLE SURROUNDINGS SUCH AS WE KNOW HE ENJOYS. A ROYAL ELEMENT WOULD BE VERY DESIRABLE, BUT NOT ESSENTIAL. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD NO DOUBT WANT TO ACCOMPANY HIM FOR PART OF THE TIME.

3. IF THIS IDEA FOUND FAVOUR IN LONDON, IT NEED ONLY BE MENTIONED IN VERY GENERAL TERMS AT THIS STAGE. BUT IT SHOULD LIKE TO BE AUTHORISED TO FLOAT IT ON 4 DECEMBER, BOTH AS A SIGN THAT WE HAVE NO DOUBT WHATEVER ABOUT KOHL'S RE-ELECTION AND ALSO TO PIN SOMETHING ATTRACTIVE ON THE ANGLO-GERMAN WALL FOR 1987.

4. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

BULLARD

BPLNAN 2779

LIMITED

WED

ECD(I)

ECD(P)

ECD(E)

NEWS D.

INFO D.

PLANNING STAFF

DEF D.

ACDD

RES D.

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MRS CHALKER

PS/MR EGGAR

PS/PUS

MR THOMAS

MR BRAITHWAITE

MR FALL

MR RATFORD

COPIES TO:

PS/10 DOWNING ST.

MR MALLABY

MR WILLIAMSON

MR JAY

CABINET
OFFICE

Prime Minister
I'm not sure you will
welcome this idea.
I think Julian should
not raise it, until we
have had
time to
consider
further
COP
24/11

Amended

mt