

SUBJECT
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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

File
ccfco
PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 10/87

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 January 1987

Dear Helmut,

I send you warmest congratulations on your election victory. I am delighted that we shall be able to go on working closely together.

May I also say how horrified I was to learn of the recent kidnappings in Beirut of two German citizens. I want to assure you of my full support and solidarity at this difficult time. If there is anything you think we can do to help you, please let us know. You will of course receive our staunchest support in upholding our common opposition to terrible blackmail of this kind and in resisting any concessions which would make more difficult the position of other countries such as Britain who have hostages in Lebanon.

Yours ever
Margaret

His Excellency Dr. Helmut Kohl



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

In the light of
the German election
results, I have slightly
toned down the
first paragraph, which was
predicated on a bigger
win

Could you re-sign
please?

"Dear Helmut

yours ever
Margaret" CDA

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file

ECU

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

26 January 1987

Thank you for your letter of 24 January enclosing a draft message from the Prime Minister to Chancellor Kohl about the German hostages in Beirut. I have combined a shortened version of this into a message of congratulations about the election result. I should be grateful if the text could be telegraphed to Bonn.

(Charles Powell)

R.N. Culshaw, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

You will want

to send a message
of congratulations to

Chancellor Kohl, assuming

he wins. It would

also be helpful to

ship in a constraining

paragraph on the

harrogers. The Germans

are wobbling, & need
strengthening.

Agree to sign on a contingency
basis? COP



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Helmut-

I send you warmest congratulations on ^{your} ~~the~~ ^{victorious} election ~~result~~.
~~It is a great triumph and~~ I am delighted that we shall be
able to go on working ^{closely} together.

May I also say how horrified I was to learn of the recent kidnappings in Beirut of two German citizens. I want to assure you of my full support and solidarity at this difficult time. If there is anything you think we can do to help you, please let us know.

You will of course receive our staunchest support in upholding our common opposition to terrible blackmail of this kind and in resisting any concessions which would make more difficult the position of other countries such as Britain who have hostages in Lebanon.

Yours ever

Margaret

His Excellency Dr. Helmut Kohl