

PRIME MINISTER

CDP
7/4.

CONSULTATIONS WITH FRANCE AND GERMANY

Herr Teltschik in Chancellor Kohl's office telephoned me this afternoon to say that he and M. Attali were under instructions from Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand respectively to hold a tripartite meeting of the sort you discussed with them last month. The purpose would be to talk over a number of defence and EC issues. They wondered whether I would be ready to take part in such a meeting. They would like it to be in London on 14 April, when Herr Teltschik will be on his way to the United States.

I would of course be perfectly happy to take part in such a meeting if you so wished. There might be some unhappiness on the part of the Foreign Office, particularly if there seemed any likelihood of any such meetings becoming institutionalised (though this has not been suggested).

My suggestion would be that we should agree to hold at least the first meeting in this form, and discuss at the meeting itself how this sort of consultation might best be carried on.

Yes no

You may wish to mention this to the Foreign Secretary on Monday.

Yes no

May I agree to take part in this meeting? Since you will not be in No. 10 on 14 April, might I hold the meeting here?

CDP

Yes - We shall need to consider the agenda.
no

CHARLES POWELL

3 April 1987

VC4ANB