

Duty Clerk
to check date -
with German
Ambassador

Charles
1715 on
22 Feb.
AP 31/1

(1)

Amerles

Ed. 1 has a line
please.
COP 28/1

PRIME MINISTER

GERMAN DEFENCE MINISTER

The German Ambassador has been in touch to say that Herr Stoltenberg will be in the United Kingdom in late February for a NATO meeting and is coming on to London to give a talk at the LSE. He wondered if he might possibly call on you for 30 minutes. He thinks it very important in the present political climate to demonstrate that Anglo-German contacts continue at the highest level: and his current responsibilities for defence make a meeting quite topical.

I think the reasoning is sound and that it would be a good idea for you to see him briefly. It is not the best of days, but we can probably fit in half an hour. Agree to see him?

COP.

(CHARLES POWELL)

yes

26 January 1990

c:\wpdocs\foreign\german.dca



10 DOWNING STREET

Herr Stoltenberg
will try to
re-arrange his
programme to
manage 1715
with the PM.

German
Embassy
replying back to
confirm.



Amanda

10 DOWNING STREET

Re: Minister

I have a hoid
feeling that this
won't work, because
he's making a
speed run. (ed. you
n. don't it be
Robinson's office
oh)

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 February 1990

Dear Tim,

Visit by the West German Defence Minister
to the UK

Dr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Defence Minister, is due to visit the UK on 21-23 February to attend an IEPG meeting at Gleneagles, and to give a talk at the LSE.

Dr Stoltenberg has asked to call on the Prime Minister, the Lord President and the Foreign Secretary on 22 February. Dr Stoltenberg is a member of Chancellor Kohl's CDU party and is a former Minister of Scientific Research (1965-69) and Minister of Finance (1982-89). He has also held the post of Minister-President of Schleswig-Holstein. As Defence Minister, he has earned respect for his thoughtful, measured approach. I enclose a telegram from Bonn giving background to the visit.

We recommend that the Lord President see Dr Stoltenberg. He should be able to offer some interesting insights into the latest German thinking on defence matters, and prospects for German unification. A call is pencilled into the Prime Minister's diary for 1715 hrs on 22 February and the Foreign Secretary is seeing him at 1500 hrs.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell (No 10) and Simon Webb (MOD).

Jans,
Stephen Wall
(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

Tim Sutton Esq
PS/Lord President

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FOR WED
MODUK FOR PS/SOFS, SEC (NATO/UK)(P)

VISIT TO UK BY FRG DEFENCE MINISTER, 21-22 FEBRUARY

1. WE HAVE CONFIRMED WITH STOLTENBERG'S OFFICE THAT HE INTENDS TO TRAVEL FROM THE IEPG AT GLENEAGLES TO LONDON ON 21 FEBRUARY (EVENING) AND WILL SPEAK AT THE LSE ON THE AFTERNOON OF 22 FEBRUARY ON 'PROSPECTS THROUGH COMPETITION: REFLECTIONS ON A SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY IN THE FRG'. HE WOULD LIKE IF POSSIBLE TO CALL THAT MORNING ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE LORD PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER. HE WILL, OF COURSE, HAVE SEEN THE DEFENCE SECRETARY AT GLENEAGLES.

2. I HOPE THAT AT LEAST THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND TIME TO SEE STOLTENBERG. HE WOULD FIND HIM A THOUGHTFUL AND AUTHORITATIVE EXPONENT OF CDU/CSU THINKING ON THE GERMAN QUESTION AND THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN SECURITY. THIS WOULD COMPLEMENT THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S SESSIONS WITH GENSCHER AND KOHL ON 6 FEBRUARY.

MALLABY
YYYY

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