

*Top Copy on Germany, Visits
by Chancellor Kohl, Pt 7*

*I think he would
like to come (i)*

PRIME MINISTER

Overseas Visitors: January-March, 1983

*To Chancellors.
This would be
convenient*

I should be grateful to know your views on the possibility of three overseas visitors coming here in the period January-March. They are:

*day's visit -
depending on
come on the
weekend
M*

- a) Chancellor Kohl;
- b) Mr. Fanfani;
- c) Mr. Lubbers.

I attach your forward diary. At present you have no foreign visitors in January, only one (Mr. Sadruddin) in February - and in March there are no foreign policy engagements until the European Council on 21/22 March, followed by a State Visit from 22-24 March.

Chancellor Kohl

He may be very important to us next year. He ought to be close to us on trade and defence issues and could play a key role in getting a satisfactory solution to our budget problem. If we do not achieve this during the German Presidency (January-June), goodness knows what will happen under the Greek Presidency.

The Chancellor is keen to come here again. You will recall that he suggested a visit before Christmas to discuss internal trade problems but we decided that we had seen enough of him for the time being. You will wish to bear in mind that we have fixed the date of the next Anglo/German Summit for 22 April but there is much to be said for getting Chancellor Kohl over here well before his Elections on 6 March.

*to the
minister*

In his minute, attached, Sir Robert Armstrong argues for a January visit. I do not think it need take all day. You could offer talks and lunch on 24 or 26 January. May we arrange this?

/Mr. Fanfani ...

Mr. Fanfani

The Italians were upset that we did not offer them a second bilateral this year, though I am sure it was right to avoid one. It is our turn to host the Summit. The Italians used to be good allies on the budget and other EC issues. They have been less so of late, partly because some people in Rome have been working for a close alliance with the French. With the new Italian administration, we have an opportunity to change this. It would be helpful to issue an early invitation to Mr. Fanfani to visit London for the Summit, perhaps on Wednesday, 2 March. This would mean giving up most of the day. May we arrange this?

Yes not

Mr. Lubbers

Not quite so important, but he has already been to Paris and will shortly go to Bonn. It will be useful to discuss with him EC issues, especially the budget, and INF deployment. We could confine this to talks followed by lunch. You could do this on 4 February, 25 February or 4 March. May we offer him a choice of these dates?

Yes not

If we can get these three visits in place, we should be able to work out a game plan for our approach to the budget problem in the first half of next year. I should be grateful for a word with you about this sometime.

A.J.C.

9 December, 1982