



Prime Minister

BRITISH EMBASSY,
BONN.

BM
1979

6 July 1979

Sir Michael Palliser GCMG
FCO

1. Secretary of State - *can be done*
Nickell Power
9/7

mb

- 2. Lord Pym, Sec.
- 3. Mr. Brown
- 4. *widepr.*

Dear Michael,

cc. Mr. Carr-Saunders *✓ sent 10/8*

RELATIONS AT HEAD OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL

1. You will know from my telegram No 343 of 2 July that the favourable initial impression which Mrs Thatcher made on Chancellor Schmidt when he was in the UK in mid-May has clearly been reinforced as a result of the European Council and Tokyo Summit meetings. He has now gone on public record in that sense. In his speech to the Bundestag on 4 July, reporting on his visit to Tokyo, the Chancellor went out of his way at an early stage to pay a handsome and patently sincere compliment to the Prime Minister in the following terms:-

"The new Heads of Government of the UK and Belgium participated for the first time in the deliberations of the European Council in Strasbourg. Their very active participation in these deliberations demonstrated clearly the well-established working and cohesion of the European Council. I should like to add by way of a personal remark that I was particularly impressed by the expert knowledge, authority and sense of responsibility with which Mrs Thatcher participated in the discussions in Strasbourg and later in Tokyo."



2. Van Well has told us that this was no flash in the pan. The records of discussions between the Chancellor and distinguished visitors to Bonn almost invariably show that during the conversation the Chancellor has referred in most complimentary terms to Mrs Thatcher.

Two cc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Oliver Wright', with a large, stylized initial 'O'.

Oliver Wright