



PM/80/64

PRIME MINISTER

Relations with our Allies

Prime Minister?
An FCO think-piece,
offered by had Carrington
as background for a
discussion after the
~~break~~
MAD 6/8

1. Like you, I have recently been worried by the strains in the relationship between the Europeans and the Americans, and by the apparent exclusiveness of the Franco-German relationship which seemed bound to diminish our own influence.
2. I therefore invited Oliver Wright and Reg Hibbert to a meeting in my office on 14 July at which we had a substantial discussion of the issues.
3. Since these are important matters, I would like the chance to go over the ground with you soon after the holiday. I enclose a paper which I commissioned to reflect the arguments exchanged at my meeting. It is compatible with present policy, though in its present form it is strictly a "planning" paper and has not been cleared outside the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Nevertheless, I think that you will find it useful as a basis for further thought.
4. I am sending a copy of this minute to Francis Pym.

Michael - (Pattison + Alexander)
not for communication to the
F.O. - I am very worried about this
paper. It is very blurry & vague. It is a
think-piece with the thought left out.
Perhaps we had better have a discussion so
that we get some work on hand.
Carrington

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
4 August 1980



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