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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

16 November 1981

Political Co-operation: Herr Genscher's Ideas

The Prime Minister has seen the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's minute PM/81/52 (undated) to her on this subject.

The Prime Minister is prepared to go no further at this stage than welcoming the initiative. She is not prepared to appear to welcome the proposals themselves. She believes that the reaction among the Government supporters would be very negative and, indeed, that there would be a risk of "another split". She believes that the UK Parliament would react negatively to the emphasis on the European Parliament. In her view, we cannot "just ignore our own Parliament's views".

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to other members of OD and to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Brian Fall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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*Good*

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

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20 November 1981

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 No.10 Downing Street  
 LONDON SW1

*NBAA*

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*Dear Michael,*

POLITICAL CO-OPERATION : HERR GENSCHER'S IDEAS

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has seen your letter of 16 November 1981, conveying the Prime Minister's response to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's minute about Herr Genscher's ideas on political co-operation. On the particular point put to him in the minute on the subsidiary document about economic integration, the Chancellor agrees that the draft wording is not harmful.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to other members of OD, and to David Wright in the Cabinet Office.

*Yours ever,  
 J O Kerr.*

J O KERR  
 Principal Private Secretary