

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

3 September 1980

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
431 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Biden:

I would like to invite you to a small seminar we are holding at CIA on 18 September on "Policy Issues Between the US and Western Europe in the 1980s". The seminar will help prepare us for a short, speculative National Intelligence Estimate we plan to write this autumn. Enclosed is a summary of the issues we plan to address.

Those attending will include Stanley Hoffmann, Guido Goldman, Amitai Etzioni, Robert Lieber, Andrew Pierre, George Liska, Peter Katzenstein, Ronald Inglehart [redacted], as well as about twenty European specialists from the intelligence and foreign policy communities in government.

We will be gathering for cocktails and dinner at 5:30, with a roundtable discussion from about 7:00 to 9:30 in the evening. Your comments and perspectives would be extremely valuable for all of us, and I hope very much you will be able to join us.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature box]

Acting National Intelligence Officer
for Western Europe

Enclosure:

Issues Outline

[Redacted box]

224-5042

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POLICY ISSUES BETWEEN THE US AND WESTERN EUROPE IN THE 1980s

18 September 1980

I. The shaping economic and social forces in Europe today and tomorrow

- will the organization of production, the sharing out of the economic and social product, and economic management have the same overriding importance in the 1980s that they acquired in the 1970s?
- in what ways will the dominating problems (inflation, low growth, access to resources and markets, structural obsolescence) and the potential new advantages (better conservation, new technologies, relative social tranquillity) look different, or, remain essentially the same?
- what will be the dominant trends in the search for more effective approaches to these problems: reassertion of free market principles, social management, neo-corporativism, industrial democracy?
- in what significant ways might new social (or cultural) trends impinge on economic management: e.g., aging populations and generational gaps, retreat from consumerism, quality of life movements, environmental enthusiasms, etc.
- what major divergences could appear among the Europeans as those trends unfold, and with what consequences? might traditional social and economic idiosyncrasies gain new vigor? how would Europeans respond?

II. The international context -- Western Europe's global interests and perspectives in the next decade

- in what ways do we see the changing currents in Europe's internal situation translating into fewer, more, or a different set of interests abroad?
- looking both backward and forward, do the Europeans see their evolving relationships with the rest of the free industrialized world becoming more competitive or more cooperative, or both?
- how do the Europeans perceive developments in the US and in their relations with the US affecting the American dimension in global affairs: a declining but still preeminent factor, competitor but essential partner, recuperable manager of the international system, etc.?