

SECRET - HVCCO

CONFIDENTIAL FILING.

Prime Minister's visit to Brussels,  
to attend the European Council 11-12 February  
1988.

PM TOURS ABROAD

December 1987.

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
<del>6.12.87</del>							
<del>12.1.88</del>							
<del>21.1.88</del>							
<del>26.1.88</del>							
<del>27.1.88</del>							
<del>28.1.88</del>							
<del>29.1.88</del>							
<del>8.2.88</del>							
23.2.88.							

S  
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PREM 19/2438

TNA keep  
25/3/88



File SH

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

23 February 1988

Dear Squadron Leader James,

I am writing on the Prime Minister's behalf to thank you, and your crew, for once again providing such an excellent service to and from Brussels last week for the European Council meeting.

I know she would also want me to apologise to you for the extreme delay on the return journey, and to thank you for being so patient! ✦

Yours sincerely  
C D Powell

C D POWELL

Squadron Leader Michael James, R.A.F.

✦ and for your patience  
in waiting for this  
letter.



CABINET OFFICE

70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS Telephone 01-270 0336

8 February 1988

**THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS  
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4)  
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS

I am writing to confirm that the Prime Minister will be attending the European Council meeting on 11 and 12 February.

The party will arrive in Brussels early morning on 11 February.

During this period, the Private Office will be situated at the Europa Hotel, where the party will be staying.

A second Private Office will be set up in the Charlamagne building where discussions are scheduled to take place. The party will alternate between the two, depending on where the Prime Minister is at the time.

All signal traffic will be passed to the relevant Private Office via UKREP. A safehand run will operate between the Private Offices as and when required.

Material which requires consideration by the Prime Minister should, as usual, be sent to us for passing to 10 Downing Street, who will decide whether it should be forwarded. Any material which may be sent will be securely locked in the Private Office which will be manned during silent hours by the Royal Military Police.

The Duty Clerk for the trip will be Miss Susan Morris and the Garden Room Girl will be Miss Sally Hayter. Both Miss Morris and Miss Hayter will act as COMSOs at all times until the Private Office is closed at the end of the day. During silent hours, Charles Powell, the Prime Minister's Private Secretary will act as COMSO. All three are cleared for access to Category III material. BRAHMS secure speech equipment will be available during the visit.

*A. Davies Jones*

A DAVIES JONES

Copies to -

→ Ms S Forman, PUSD, FCO  
C Fountain Esq, 10 Downing Street  
Duty Clerk, 10 Downing Street  
C K Davies Esq, Cabinet Office  
D10, Cabinet Office

SECRET

HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY



10 DOWNING STREET

Charles

BRUSSELS

① Communications:

Given the limited storage space on the plane are you happy just taking Brahms?

Brahms only

or do you think we'll need the secure Fax as well?

No fax

② Boxes:

I shall 'borrow' your briefcase tomorrow morning to be sealed.

I would prefer to borrow a Gendin Room, Belgium.

③ Transport:

would you like a car at, say, 7 a.m. on Wednesday to bring you + your luggage to work?

Yes please

④ Briefs:

would you like Sir P. Cradock to receive a copy of the briefs?

NO need

Thank you

Sue 8.2.88.



10 DOWNING STREET

Charles,

The Hotel manager  
of the Europa in Brussels  
has asked if he could  
have a photograph taken  
of himself greeting the  
Pm. FCO should advise  
that this is usually  
refused and that we  
could give a photo of the  
Pm instead.

Happy for them to arrange  
this in this instance?

Yes  
Mignon  
told 4/2/88  
Cm

Sue  
4-288

Mrs J Greenwood, Security Department (4M 503)

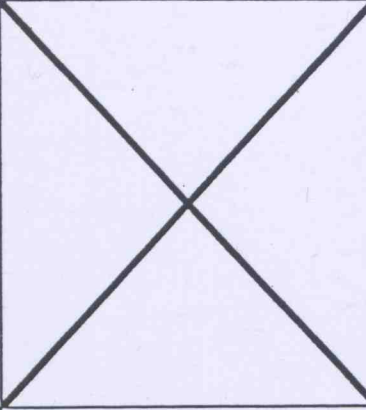
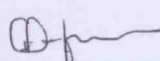
EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS: 11/12 FEBRUARY

1. Please arrange for 2 separate suites of safehand boxes, green and black, to be delivered to Room 1, Downing Street West by Tuesday 9 February. The boxes should be marked "European Council, Brussels for RAF VC10 on 11 February".
2. I should be grateful if you would let me have 2 identical keys for each suite, to be sent to me by Thursday, 4 February.
3. In addition, 3 identical keys for the black suite should be sent to the Duty Clerk, No 10 Downing Street and 2 identical keys for the green suite to Miss S McGinty, Private Office, WH 204.

M M Goldsmith (Miss)  
Protocol Department  
210 6377

2~~1~~ February 1988

cc     Duty Clerk, No 10 Downing Street ←  
       Miss S McGinty, Private Office, WH 204  
       Mr S Papworth, Security Department, Room 1, DSW

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 1A ..... PIECE/ITEM ..... 2438/2 ..... (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  <i>Minute from Goldsmith:</i> ADMIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT TO BRUSSELS, 2 FEBRUARY 1988	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	26/04/2016 
MISSING AT TRANSFER	
NUMBER NOT USED	
MISSING (TNA USE ONLY)	
DOCUMENT PUT IN PLACE (TNA USE ONLY)	

*Instructions for completion of Dummy Card*

Use black or blue pen to complete form.

Use the card for one piece or for each extract removed from a different place within a piece.

Enter the department and series,  
eg. HO 405, J 82.

Enter the piece and item references, .  
eg. 28, 1079, 84/1, 107/3

Enter extract details if it is an extract rather than a whole piece.

This should be an indication of what the extract is,

eg. Folio 28, Indictment 840079, E107, Letter dated 22/11/1995.

Do not enter details of why the extract is sensitive.

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Sign and date next to the reason why the record is not available to the public ie. Closed under FOI exemption; Retained under section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958; Temporarily retained; Missing at transfer or Number not used.





10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

1 February 1988

EUROPEAN COUNCIL BRUSSELS: 11-12 FEBRUARY

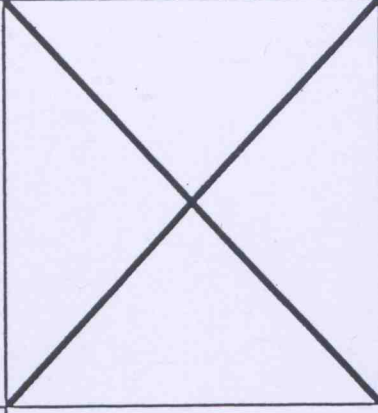
Thank you for your letter of 1 February about the delegation for the European Council in Brussels. I agree that we should follow the pattern of Copenhagen.

I am copying this letter to Roger Lavelle (Cabinet Office).

Charles Powell

R. N. Culshaw, Esq., M.V.O.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

AG

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 19 ..... PIECE/ITEM ..... 2638/2 ..... (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  <i>Letter</i> <del>MINUTE</del> AND ATTACHEMENT, R N GULSHAW TO CD POWELL, 1 FEBRUARY 1968	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	26/04/2016 GD
MISSING AT TRANSFER	
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D/c

## CABINET OFFICE

70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS Telephone 01333 270 0402

2G/3151

1 February 1988

Distribution below

## EUROPEAN COUNCIL BRUSSELS 10-12 FEBRUARY 1988: COMMUNICATIONS

## TELEGRAMS

1. Secure telegrams may be sent via the FCO to UKREP.
2. A secure facsimile equipment is being installed by Embassy technical support staff in the No 10 Private Office in the Europa Hotel. This will be manned only when the delegation moves from the Council offices in the Charlamagne building back to the hotel. The facsimile may be used for telegrams of any classification. (Operating note: the crypto key should be held by the No 10 Duty Clerk at Brussels and the crypto unit should be switched off when the system is not in use ie when the office is in the Charlamagne building.

## SPEECH

3. There are ample telephones with facilities for access to the UK in the Delegation offices in the Charlamagne building. Brahms will be connected to a telephone in the room designated as the No 10 Private Office. The installation will be carried out by a technical support officer from the Embassy.
4. The following International Direct Dial (IDD) telephones have been requested in the Europa Hotel:

No 10 Private Office	- 3 lines
FCO Private Office	- 2 lines
Delegation Administration Office	- 2 lines

Telephone numbers will be notified by the Conference Officer in due course. Brahms will be connected by the FCO Technical Support Officer as required.

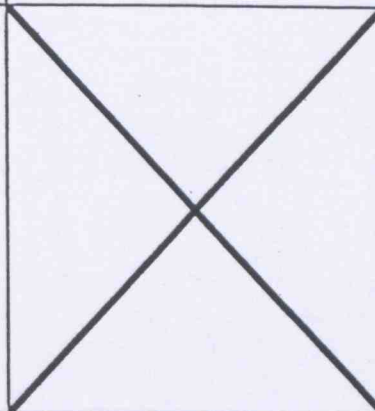
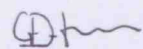
HAND-HELD RADIOS

5. A number of hand-held radios are being provided for use by the support staff for administration and control of transport.

*C. K. Davies*

C K DAVIES  
Telecommunications Secretariat

Distribution: **No 10 Downing Street** - Duty Clerks  
- Mrs J Richards  
- Mr C Fountain  
- Mr A Bearpark  
  
Cabinet Office - Mr T Woolley  
- Mr B Hilton  
- Mr D Glassett  
- Mr J Moody  
  
FCO - Miss Goldsmith (Protocol)  
- Mr Elliot (COD)

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM ..... 2438/2 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  CK DAVIES TO PA BURROWES, 1 FEBRUARY 1988	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	26/04/2016 
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seen by COP.



copy  
+ PA.

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK

29th January, 1988.

My dear Charles.

Thank you for your letter of 28th January to Robert Fellowes about the Prime Minister's visits to Brussels from 10th to 12th February, on 17th February and on 2nd and 3rd March. The Queen is pleased to give her permission for these absences.

Yours ever,

Ken.

(KENNETH SCOTT)

C. D. Powell, Esq.



CONFIDENTIAL

SUE MORRIS

Please note that  
we shall be leaving  
from the Spelthorne Suite.



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

28 January 1988

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS  
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

Thank you for your letter of 28 January about the travel arrangements for the European Council in Brussels. I am content with what you propose although would prefer the Prime Minister's HS 125 to be on stand-by from 2215.

(C. D. POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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file SA

cc Jean D  
CF

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

28 January 1988

The Prime Minister intends to visit Brussels for the European Council on 10-12 February 1988; for a bilateral visit to NATO Headquarters on 17 February; and for the NATO Summit on 2 and 3 March.

I should be grateful if you could seek The Queen's permission for the Prime Minister to be absent from the country on these dates.

C D POWELL

Robert Fellowes, Esq., L.V.O., C.B.

RESTRICTED

SA

CONFIDENTIAL



Blw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

28 January 1988

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS  
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

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(C. D. POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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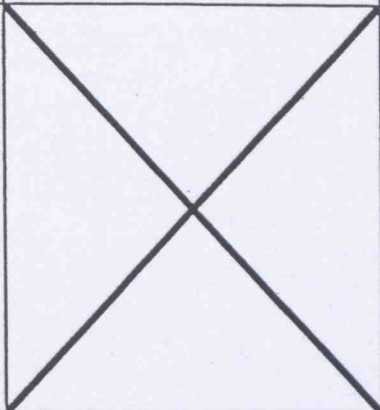
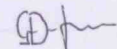
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DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM ..... 2438/2 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  <i>silent:</i> LIST: SUE TO CHARLES, 28 JANUARY 1988	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*file No  
COBARC  
cc to PC  
Janice  
Sally*

*From the Private Secretary*

27 January 1988

EUROPEAN COUNCIL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

*B/F*  
This is just to confirm that, in the light of the risk of action by Belgian air traffic controllers, the Prime Minister is ready to consider flying over to Brussels late on the evening of Wednesday, 10 February. Her earliest departure time would be 2230/2300 and she would want to travel by HS125. This would enable her to have a breakfast meeting with Mr. Lubbers at the Europa Hotel on the Thursday morning. You agreed to investigate the possibilities.

CHARLES POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

RESTRICTED



*File PMMAQC*PRIME MINISTER*DMY*

## EUROPEAN COUNCIL: BRUSSELS

It is now firmly established that the European Council in Brussels will be on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 February, starting at 1000am on the Thursday. We have moved Cabinet to an earlier day.

The question remains: when do you see Lubbers, our only remaining ally on agricultural reform? Your meeting with him before the Copenhagen Council served us well.

The choices are:

- to go over to Brussels on Wednesday evening. But you have a National Union Executive Committee dinner which you would have to miss or postpone;
- to go over very early on the Thursday. To have a meeting with Lubbers at 0915 in Brussels, you would (because of the hour's difference) need to take off at 6.45am which makes leaving here at 0615;
- to invite Lubbers to come over here briefly after you have seen Kohl on 2 February and before the Council on 11 February. The diary is fairly full but it could be done.

I do not pretend that any of the choices are attractive. It may be that you will have to leave it to Sir Geoffrey Howe to meet the Dutch Foreign Minister, with you having a very short meeting with Lubbers just before the Council opens (it will probably be late anyway).

C. D. POWELL26 January 1988

RESTRICTED



file

EL3CWR

bc PAB  
JR  
PC

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

25 January 1988

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS**

Herr Teltschik telephoned this afternoon to say that Chancellor Kohl at made real efforts to persuade the other Heads of Government to move the European Council from 11/12 February to 12/13 February but had not found anyone who was prepared to agree to this. In the circumstances he saw no alternative but to stick to 11/12 February, starting at 10 am on 11 February. I have explained this to the Prime Minister who accepts that there is nothing further to be done.

We need to decide whether the Prime Minister goes over to Brussels on the evening of Wednesday 10 February to see Mr. Lubbers or we do it immediately before the opening of the Council on 11 February, making a very early start from London. It will almost certainly now have to be the latter.

I am copying this letter to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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*file*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

25 January 1988

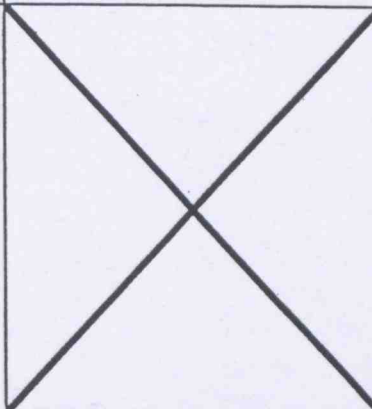
**EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS: FEBRUARY 1988**

Thank you for your letter of 25 January about support staff for the European Council in Brussels. I agree with what you propose.

C D POWELL

A. C. Galsworthy, Esq., C.M.G.  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

*8/12*

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM ..... 2438 / 2 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  AGGALSWORTHY TO CD POWELL, DATED 25 JANUARY 1988	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
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*File M  
CR*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

22 January 1988

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL BRUSSELS:  
FEBRUARY 1988**

Thank you for your letter of 20 January about the accommodation during the forthcoming European Council in Brussels. The Prime Minister is very grateful for Sir David Hannay's offer of hospitality, but thinks that on this occasion it might be more convenient to be at the Europa Hotel.

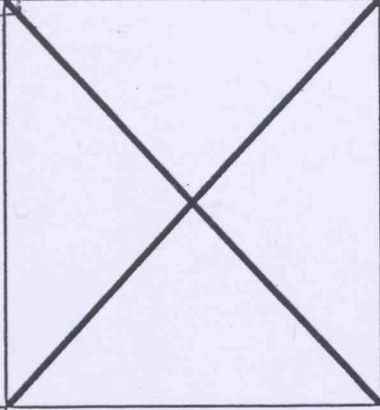
C D POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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*li*

**A** The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM ..... 2438 / 2 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:  <i>Letter</i> <del>MEMO</del> DATED 20 JANUARY 1982, PARKER TO POWELL	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION .....	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	26/04/2016 SD- <i>[signature]</i>
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**ADVANCE COPY**

171762  
MDADAN 2918

RESTRICTED  
FM UKREP BRUSSELS  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 176  
OF 211658Z JAN 88  
INFO IMMEDIATE BONN

FRAME GENERAL

TIMING OF THE START OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 11 FEBRUARY.

1. AT THE COREPER LUNCH ON 21 JANUARY A NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES WERE MADE ABOUT THE TIMING OF THE START OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 11 FEBRUARY, PARTICULARLY BY THE PORTUGUESE. THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY SAID THAT THE START WAS PROVISIONALLY FIXED FOR 10 O'CLOCK BUT THE MATTER WAS NOT YET SETTLED. A NUMBER OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (ITALY, DENMARK, AS WELL AS PORTUGAL) EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR STARTING WITH LUNCH.

HANNAY

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

27

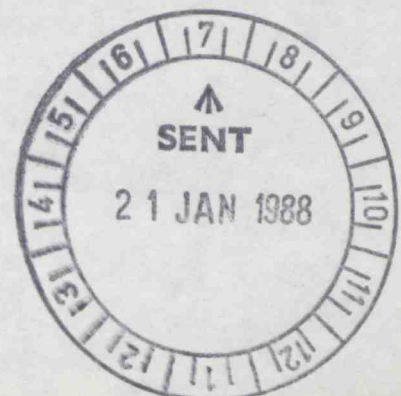
ADVANCE 27

FRAME GENERAL  
PS/S OF S FCO  
KERR FCO  
WALL FCO  
TURNER FCO  
HADLEY MAFF  
EDWARDS TSY  
MORTIMER TSY  
PS/NO 10 DOWNING STREET ✓  
PS  
PS/MRS CHALKER  
PS/PUS  
MR BRAITHWAITE

MR KERR  
RESIDENT CLERK  
HD/ECD(I)  
HD/NEWS  
MR R LAVELLE CAB OFFICE  
MR J H HOLROYD CAB OFFICE  
MR C R BUDD CAB OFFICE  
MR W PARKER CABINET OFFICE  
SIR G LITTLER HM TREAS  
MR M. MERCER, HM TREAS  
MR C ROBERTS DTI VIC ST  
PERMAMENT SECRETARY MAFF

NNNN

PAGE 1  
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MDHIAN 3752

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FM BONN  
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TELNO 36  
OF 151425Z JANUARY 88  
INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS  
INFO PRIORITY OTHER EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POSTS

MY TELNO 28: BRUSSELS EUROPEAN COUNCIL

1. THERE WAS NOTHING IN MY TALK WITH KOHL YESTERDAY TO LEAD ME TO REVISE THE ASSESSMENT IN MY TELNOS 10 AND 23. HIS MIND WAS MORE ON EAST/WEST AND DOMESTIC ISSUES THAN ON THE RUN-UP TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

2. MY ONLY RECOMMENDATION AT PRESENT IS THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO AVOID - AS WE DID SO SUCCESSFULLY AT COPENHAGEN - GETTING MANOEUVRED INTO ISOLATION. THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN TAKEN ABACK BY THE STEADY DUTCH SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION AND IT HAS SYMBOLIC AS WELL AS REAL IMPORTANCE. EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT IS THAT WE CAN CLAIM TO BE AT ONE WITH THE COMMISSION. THIS IS NOT A POSITION WE SHOULD SURRENDER UNLESS WE MUST: SEEN FROM HERE. IT MAY BE WORTH MAKING AN EFFORT TO ACCEPT THE COMMISSION'S LATEST IDEAS ON SET-ASIDE IN ORDER TO GO ON WRONG-FOOTING THE GERMANS.

BULLARD

YYYY

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YOUR TELNO 12: TIMING OF THE BRUSSELS EUROPEAN COUNCIL

1. I SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED YESTERDAY TO TELTSCHIK, AND TODAY TO NEUER AND FINALLY TO KOHL HIMSELF. THEY ALL SAW GREAT DIFFICULTIES ABOUT CHANGING THE DATE AGREED UPON IN COPENHAGEN, KOHL DESCRIBING HIMSELF AS 'WALLED IN'.

2. NO. 10 MAY WISH TO PURSUE THE MATTER THROUGH NEUER, WITH WHOM I UNDERSTAND THEY HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH ON ANOTHER MATTER.

BULLARD

YYYY

ADVANCE	7	
PS		1
HD/PROTOCOL		1
PS/MRS CHALKER		1
PS/PLS		1
HD/ECD(I)		1
HD/ECD(E)		1
HD/WED		1
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LIMITED		8
PS		7
PROTOCOL		7
PS/MRS CHALKER		1
PS/PLS		1
SIR J FRETWELL		1
MR BRAITHWAITE		1
MR KERR		1
HD/ECD(I)		1
HD/ECD(E)		1
HD/WED		1
ADDITIONAL	6	
MR LAVELLE: CABINET OFFICE		1
MR EDWARDS: HMT		1
MR HADLEY: MAFF		1
PS/NO. 10		3

(OLD CRN 146304)

[COWAN]

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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

12 January 1988

**EUROPEAN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY**

*SHF*  
The Prime Minister remains very resistant to moving Cabinet to enable the European Council in Brussels to start on the morning of Thursday 11 February. If we agree once, we shall come under pressure to do so again. Her strong preference would be to hold the Council on Friday 12/Saturday 13 February, travelling over to Brussels to see Mr. Lubbers on the Thursday night. I should be grateful if a renewed effort could be made to persuade the German Presidency to go for these dates.

I am copying this letter to Roger Lavelle in the Cabinet Office.

(Charles Powell)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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*SA 49*  
*CEPC*  
*Tessa*

PRIME MINISTER

## EUROPEAN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY

As you know, there is to be an additional European Council on Thursday 11/Friday 12 February.

The German Presidency are pressing hard for this to start at 1000 am on the Thursday. They argue that every minute will be needed. Agreement to this would mean bringing Cabinet forward to Wednesday. Agree to this?

Depending on your answer to this, there is the further question whether you would be ready to go to Brussels on the Wednesday night for a meeting with Lubbers. This worked well last time. Agree to try it again?

*I am very unhappy about this  
I would prefer the Fri/Sat and  
go over on Thursday night.*

*I don't think we are going  
to reach agreement not*

(C. D. POWELL)  
JANUARY  
11 February 1988

*CDP*

MR BEARPARK

MRS GAISMAN

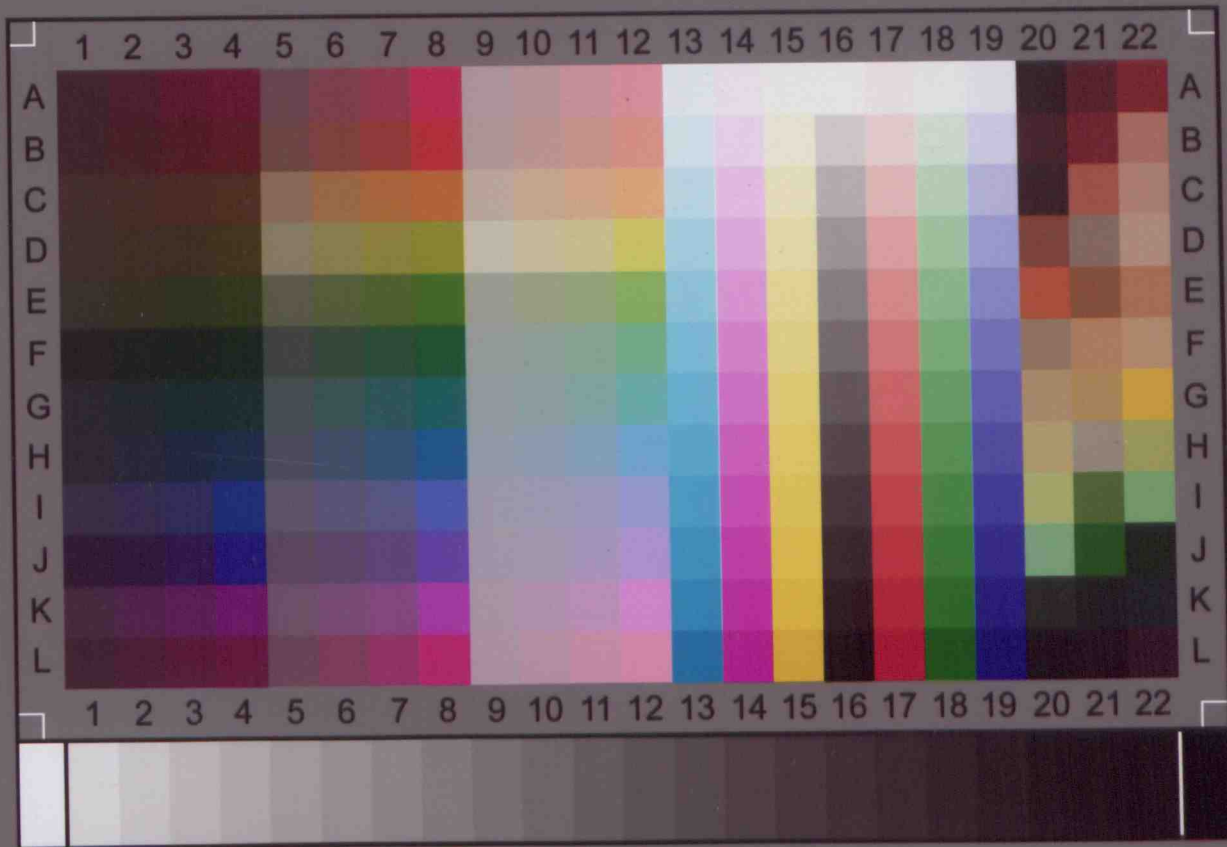
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**EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

One of the results of the European Council was a decision to hold a special additional Council on Thursday/Friday 11 and 12 February in Brussels. You will wish to note this in the diary.

**CHARLES POWELL**

6 December 1987



IT8.7/2-1993  
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Printed on Kodak Professional Paper  
Charge: R090212