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Confidential filing

Prime Minister's visit to Brussels for  
NATO Summit 4 December 1989

PATROLS ABROAD

November 1989

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Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
<del>25.11.89</del>							
<del>28.11.89</del>							
5.12.89							
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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 December 1989

Dear Mr. Nibbelink,

Thank you for the very comfortable night which I spent at the Holiday Inn before the NATO Summit. The staff were most kind and attentive: and I was particularly grateful for the way you produced the hot lemon and honey to help my sore throat. Please convey my gratitude and best wishes to all concerned.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Mr. A. Nibbelink

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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

4 December 1989

Thank you very much for taking the Prime Minister and her party to and from Brussels. I am glad that we managed to do it without being hampered by the fog. Let's hope our luck holds for Strasbourg on Thursday.

The Prime Minister has asked me to say how grateful she is to you and other members of the crew and to send her best wishes.

CHARLES POWELL

Squadron Leader Brian Dodd



CDP

BRUSSELS

Would you kindly write a thankyou letter to the General  
Manager of the Holiday Inn Hotel:

Mr. A. Nibbelink

and


Squadron Leader Brian Dodd (HS125 Captain)

Thanks.



JEAN  
4/12

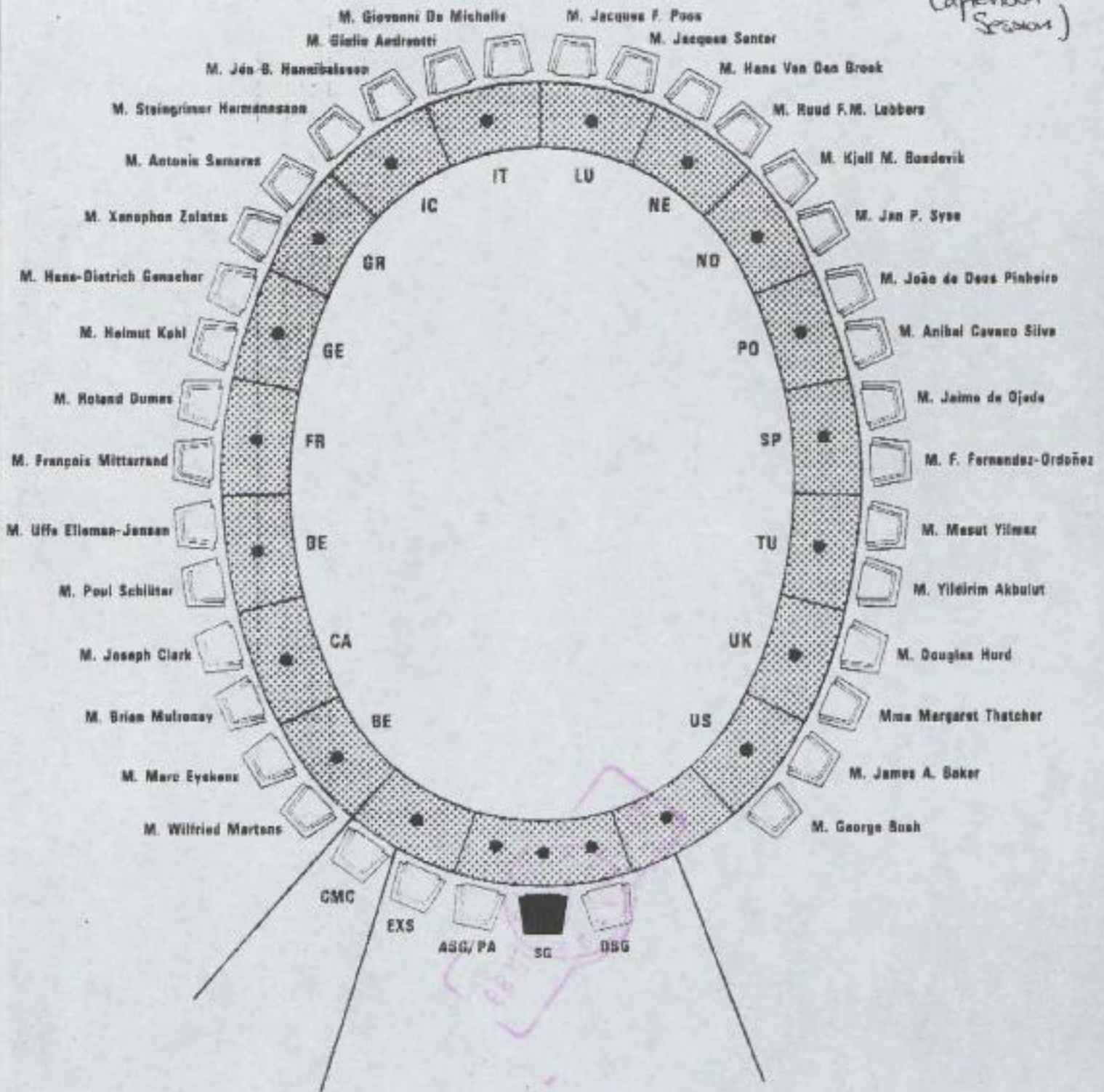
# **A** The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... <i>Prem 19</i> PIECE/ITEM ..... <i>2823</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: <i>Departure arrangements          for the visit of the          Prime Minister &amp; Secretary of          State to NATO 1 December 1989</i>	
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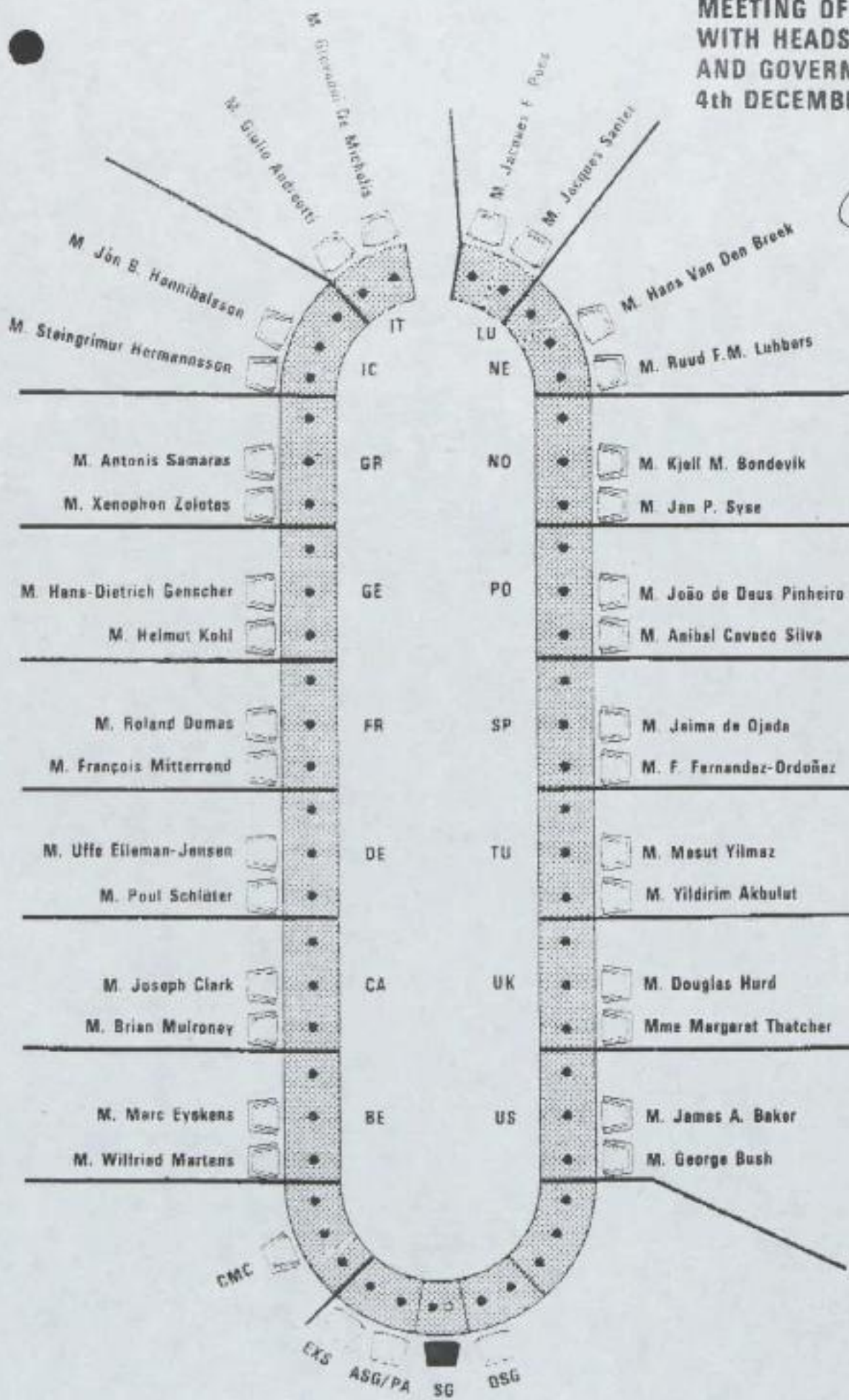
MEETING OF COUNCIL  
WITH HEADS OF STATE  
AND GOVERNMENT  
4th DECEMBER 1989

Room 1  
(Cafeteria  
Session)



**MEETING OF COUNCIL  
WITH HEADS OF STATE  
AND GOVERNMENT  
4th DECEMBER 1989**

*Room 16  
(Planning  
Session)*





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*Mre Lm*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*CFean*

*From the Private Secretary*

30 November 1989

NATO SUMMIT: ACCOMMODATION

Thank you for your letter of 29 November about accommodation for the night of 3-4 December in Brussels. This is fine.

C. D. POWELL


J.S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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*LJ*



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DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... <u>Prem 19</u> PIECE/ITEM ..... <u>2823</u> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
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BUCKINGHAM PALACE

29th November, 1989.

CM  
30/11

Dear Charles.

Thank you for your letter of 28th November, which I have laid before The Queen. Her Majesty is pleased to give her permission for the Prime Minister to be absent from this country on 4th December in order to visit Brussels.

Yours  
Robert.

(ROBERT FELLOWES)

Charles Powell, Esq.

PM Tows - Russell Nav 58







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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

28 November 1989

The Prime Minister intends to visit Brussels on 4 December to attend a NATO Summit where President Bush will brief Heads of Government on his meeting with President Gorbachev.

I should be grateful if you would seek The Queen's permission for the Prime Minister to be absent from the country on this date.

CHARLES POWELL

Sir Robert Fellowes, K.C.V.O., C.B.

mem

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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

apc

PH

*From the Private Secretary*

25 November 1989

*Dear Stephen,*

NATO SUMMIT: 4 DECEMBER

Thank you for your letter of 24 November about the programme for the NATO Summit. I agree generally with what is proposed. I do not think the Prime Minister will want to fly to Brussels on Sunday evening unless the weather forecast nearer the time is very bad. The Prime Minister will wish to give her press conference as soon as the meeting ends, even if this overlaps with those given by the Secretary General and President Bush. I note that your letter refers to FCO officials travelling with the Foreign Secretary. I assume this refers only to a Private Secretary and support staff. You know the Prime Minister's aversion to "delegations"!

*Yours sincerely,*

Charles Powell

Stephen Wall Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL London SW1A 2AH

24 November 1989

*Dear Charles,*

NATO Summit: 4 December

With reference to your letter of 23 November, it is now probable that the meeting at NATO Headquarters will start at 0930 hrs on 4 December. This should be finally confirmed next Monday.

The outline programme is therefore now as follows:

0930                      Heads of Delegation, Foreign Ministers and Permanent Representatives meet for coffee, Room 16.

1000                      Morning session begins

1230                      Morning session adjourns

                                 15 minutes photo opportunity

                                 Followed by

1245                      Separate lunches for:

                                 a) Heads of Delegation;

                                 b) Foreign Ministers and Permanent Representatives.

                                 ? c) Lunch for officials (maximum of 8 per Delegation)

1415 to                      Meeting resumes

approx 1600                      Press Conferences by Secretary-General of NATO and President Bush

? approx 1700                      Prime Minister's Press Conference

1730                      Aircraft on standby at Abellay Airport

1800 approx                      Depart

Two RAF HS 125s have been reserved, one for the Prime Minister and No 10 party, and the other for the Secretary of State and FCO officials. There is no BAe 146 available.

If the Prime Minister wished to travel out on the morning of 4 December suggested timings are:

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cc PC  
✓ GR?





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0700 Depart LHR  
0900 Arrive Brussels Abelay  
Drive to NATO Headquarters for  
0930 Start of meeting

However, in view of the possibility of fog would the Prime Minister wish to fly to Brussels on Sunday evening?

*Jans.*  
*Stephen Wall*  
(J S Wall)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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bc PC



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LONDON SW1A 2AA

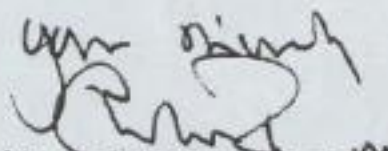
From the Private Secretary

23 November 1989

*See copy.*

**PRESIDENT BUSH'S BRIEFING FOR  
NATO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT**

Thank you for your letter of 23 November about the arrangements for President Bush's briefing for NATO Heads of Government on 4 December. I confirm that the Prime Minister will travel out to Brussels on the morning of Monday 4 December and return as soon as possible after the meeting. I should be grateful if you could book an appropriate aircraft, perhaps a BAe 146 if it is available.

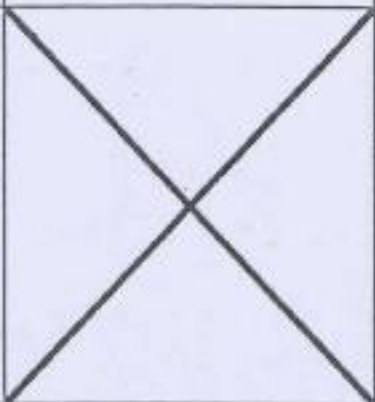
  
(C. D. POWELL)

Stephen Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

19 November 1989

*Dear Stephen,*

PRESIDENT BUSH'S BRIEFING FOR NATO GOVERNMENTS ON 4 DECEMBER

I understand that it has been agreed that President Bush will brief NATO governments on the morning of 4 December in Brussels on his meeting with President Gorbachev. The Prime Minister proposes to attend.

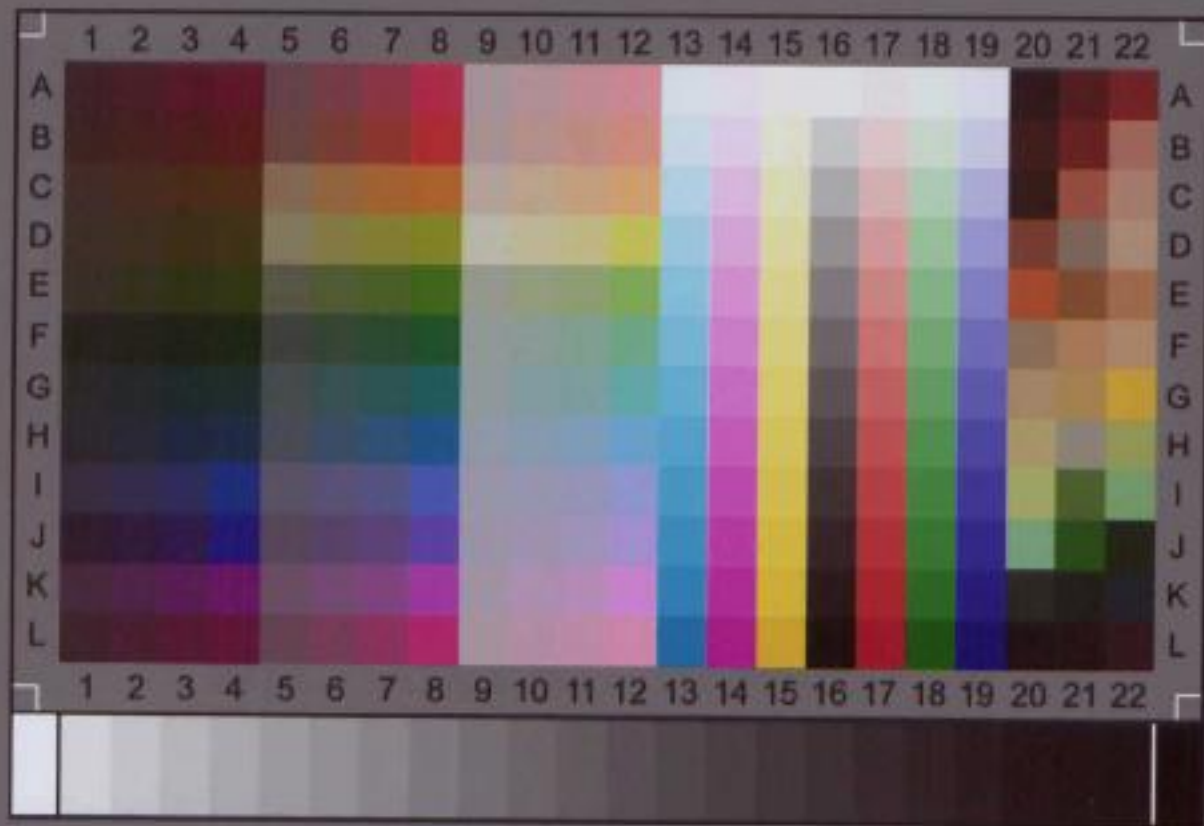
I should be grateful if you could confirm the details as soon as possible, and in particular let me know when we can expect the meeting to end, so that we can plan the remainder of the Prime Minister's day. It would also be helpful if you would arrange an aircraft for the journey to Brussels. I do not know whether it is envisaged that Foreign Ministers will also attend. Those accompanying the Prime Minister from here will be me, Bernard Ingham, a Garden Room girl and 2 detectives.

*Yours sincerely,*

(C. D. POWELL)

Stephen Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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