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BRITISH EMBASSY  
LANGE VOORHOUT 10  
THE HAGUE

15 February 1985

C D Powell Esq  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London

*Mr Powell*  
*OK*  
*o/v*

*Dear Charles,*

I found myself sitting next to the wife of the Minister of Home Affairs at a small private dinner party the other night. The subject of the recent Chequers meeting between the Prime Minister and Mr. Lubbers came up and my neighbour said "you should know that Mr. Lubbers really admires and likes Mrs. Thatcher". She added that if this had been said to me by, for example, Mr. Posthumus Meyjes of the MFA, I should naturally take it with a grain of salt as being in some measure diplomatic politesse. But coming from her, Mrs. Rietker, who knew Mrs. Lubbers well, it was the truth.

2. I thought you might like to have this little snippet. It certainly gives great satisfaction to me.

*Yours*

J W D Margetson

cc: Dr. M.J. Newellyn-Smith,  
WED, FCO.

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