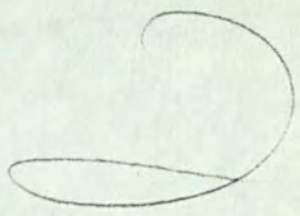


BW



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 December 1985

Dear Len,

EUROPEAN POLITICAL CO-OPERATION:
DECLARATION ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS

The Prime Minister was both surprised and annoyed to see UKREP Tel. No. 4478 containing the text of a statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Ten on East-West Relations, not very different in substance to that which she had rejected at the European Council and which you subsequently told me that we would oppose at the meeting of Foreign Ministers on 16/17 December (your letter of 11 December refers).

The Prime Minister thinks the declaration lame in its welcome for the results of the Geneva Summit, absurd in putting Gorbachev's visit to Paris on a par with the Summit, unacceptable in its implication that in European eyes the Soviet Union and the United States are of equal moral standing, and disreputable in its aimless platitudes about improving relations with Eastern Europe. She thinks it would be far better in future if we were to block such futile declarations long before they reach Ministerial level.

Yours sincerely,

(C.D. Powell)

Len Appleyard, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

slw

PRIME MINISTER

DECLARATION BY THE TEN ON EAST/WEST RELATIONS

You vetoed this at the European Council. The Foreign Office said that it would not be resurrected. In fact the attached text was approved by Foreign Ministers on 16/17 December.

It seems to me an absurd statement:

(i) it makes no distinction between the Soviet Union and the US, implying that Europe is somehow neutral between them; ✓

(ii) it puts Gorbachev's visit to Paris on a par with the Geneva Summit, which is shameless pandering to French egos; ✓

(iii) it is full of aimless platitudes about "wide ranging and far reaching cooperation with all countries of Eastern Europe". ✓

It seems to me that we lose credibility by putting our name to this sort of junk, particularly after the European Council has brushed it aside. Moreover, it's quite clearly a French walkover.

Agree to encourage the FCO to fight harder for decent statements, and, if they fail, simply not to cave in and accept pathetic texts?

CDD

Yes not

(C. D. POWELL)
19 December 1985

Pompos to

SRWAMK

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 FM UKREP BRUSSELS
 TO IMMEDIATE F C O
 TELNO 4478
 OF 172030Z DECEMBER 85
 AND TO ROUTINE EASTERN EUROPEAN POSTS,
 INFO ROUTINE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POSTS, LISBON, MADRID,
 INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, UKDEL NATO
 INFO SAVING OTTAWA, ANKARA, OSLO, TOKYO, WELLINGTON, BERNE
 INFO SAVING MEXICO CITY, STRASBOURG

M I P T: EUROPEAN POLITICAL CO-OPERATION: POLITICAL COMMITTEE,
 BRUSSELS, 17 DECEMBER.

FOLLOWING IS DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
 TEN, AS WELL AS SPAIN AND PORTUGAL, ON WEST-EAST RELATIONS:

"THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE TEN, AS WELL AS SPAIN
 AND PORTUGAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON 16-17 DECEMBER 1985 EXPRESSED
 THEIR SATISFACTION AT THE MUCH-AWAITED MEETING BETWEEN
 PRESIDENT REAGAN AND SECRETARY-GENERAL GORBACHOV IN GENEVA FROM 19 TO
 21 NOVEMBER.

"THEY WELCOME THE FACT THAT, AFTER MR GORBACHOV'S VISIT TO PARIS
 AND THE GENEVA SUMMIT, A PROCESS HAS NOW BEGUN WHICH WILL INCLUDE
 FURTHER MEETINGS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. THEY HOPE THAT IT WILL LEAD
 TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND TO PROGRESS
 TOWARDS A FRESH DIALOGUE IN ALL FIELDS, INCLUDING REGIONAL QUESTIONS
 AND THOSE CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS. !

"THE TWELVE HAVE NOTED IN PARTICULAR THE REAFFIRMATION OF THE
 JOINT AMERICAN-SOVIET DECLARATION OF 8 JANUARY 1985 CONCERNING THE
 ELABORATION OF EFFECTIVE AGREEMENTS AIMING AT PREVENTING AN ARMS
 RACE IN SPACE, TERMINATING IT ON EARTH, AT LIMITING AND REDUCING
 NUCLEAR ARMS AND AT STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC STABILITY. THEY HOPE
 THAT THIS PROCESS WILL REACH REASONABLE, BALANCED AND VERIFIABLE
 COMPROMISES IN ALL THESE FIELDS IN ORDER TO ALLOW A REDUCTION OF THE
 NUCLEAR ARMS OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES, MEDIUM-RANGE WEAPONS INCLUDED,
 AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE LEVEL WITH DUE REGARD TO THE SECURITY OF THE
 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

"THEY ALSO ATTACH A HIGH IMPORTANCE TO THE DISARMAMENT WORK
 UNDER WAY IN THE MULTILATERAL FORA, DEALING, IN PARTICULAR, WITH
 CONVENTIONAL AND CHEMICAL ARMAMENTS.

"AS TO THE CSCE PROCESS AS A WHOLE, THE TWELVE WILL, DESPITE
 CERTAIN DISAPPOINTMENTS, CONTINUE TO WORK FOR POSITIVE RESULTS IN
 ALL ITS ASPECTS, IN PARTICULAR AT THE CONFERENCE OF STOCKHOLM AND AT
 THE FORTHCOMING BERNE MEETING, WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A BALANCED
 OUTCOME AT THE VIENNA CONFERENCE, BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER 1986.

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"THE TWELVE REITERATE THEIR OWN DETERMINATION TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CONTRIBUTE TO GREATER STABILITY IN WEST-EAST RELATIONS AS A BASIS FOR WIDE-RANGING AND FAR-REACHING CO-OPERATION WITH ALL THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE.

HANNAY

YYYY

FCO ADVANCE TO:-

FCO - DEREK THOMAS, SHEPHERD, RAMSDEN, LLEWELLYN-SMITH.

FCO PASS SAVINGS TO: STRASBOURG OTTAWA ANKARA OSLO TOKYO
WELLINGTON MEXICO CITY BERNE

UCLNAN 1794

EAST WEST & US/SOVIET RELATIONS

LIMITED

ECD (E)

SOVIET D

DEFENCE D

R D

PLANNING STAFF

EED

NAD

WED

ACDD

CRD

FED

NED

PUSD

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PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RIFKIND

PS/MR RENTON

PS/MR EGGAR

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR GOODALL

MR FERGUSSON

SIR W HARDING

MR SAMUEL

MR DAUNT

MR DAVID THOMAS

MR LONG

- 2 -
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