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29th October 1985

Dear Charles,

ARMS CONTROL: SOVIET VIOLATIONS

Thank you for your letter of 29th October.

I have heard from our delegation to the Nuclear Planning Group in Brussels that agreement has now been reached on a form of words on Soviet arms control violations for inclusion in the communique. I attach at Annex A a copy of the text of this part of the communique.

The Prime Minister may wish to reply to President Reagan's message, and at Annex B I attach a possible draft.

Yours ever,
Dennis

(D BRENNAN)

C Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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ANNEX A

We received a detailed briefing from the United States Secretary of Defence on the evidence of Soviet treaty violations. We take the most serious view of this and call on the new Soviet leadership to take the steps necessary to assure full compliance with its commitments. We noted in this connection that a double standard of compliance of arms control agreement would be unacceptable and would undermine the security of the Alliance. In this context, we reaffirmed the requirement for effective verification of all arms control treaties.