

CCPC  
①



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 March 1986

No - see no need  
to send a message to Mr. Mitterrand.  
do not think he  
would welcome it  
Prime Minister

Prime Minister  
Content with  
proposed messages?  
CDD  
293

Dear Charles.

Formation of the New French Government: Messages

M. Chirac's acceptance of President Mitterrand's invitation to form the next French Government has now been announced. Sir Geoffrey Howe believes it would be appropriate for the Prime Minister to send a message of congratulation to M. Chirac on his appointment as Prime Minister; a message to the outgoing Prime Minister, M. Laurent Fabius; and a message to President Mitterrand.

We shall now know definitively until just before Easter at the earliest that Chirac has been able to form a Government that commands a working majority in the National Assembly. But all the signs are that he will succeed. It would therefore be appropriate for the Prime Minister to send him a message of congratulations without delay. We also recommend that the Prime Minister send a farewell message to the outgoing Prime Minister M. Fabius. M. Fabius is likely to continue to play a leading role in the Socialist Party (the largest single party in the new National Assembly) and he could well eventually return to the front of the political stage. The Prime Minister sent a message to M. Fabius' predecessor M. Mauroy when the latter resigned in July 1984.

A message to President Mitterrand would balance the message to Chirac and recognise the continuing importance of his role. In view of the delicacy and unpredictability of the political situation in France the message needs to be so framed as not to be open to unfavourable interpretation by the new Government. The lines of the proposed text have been agreed with Sir John Fretwell.

On publicity we suggest that, if asked, your press office confirm that the Prime Minister has sent messages to President Mitterrand and M. Chirac, but that the contents are private. We shall inform the French of this if you agree. We see no need for any public reference to the Prime Minister's message to M. Fabius.

I enclose draft telegrams to Paris including the texts.

I am copying this letter to Michael Stark.

Yours ever,  
Len Appleby  
( L V Applebyard)

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

He has  
now  
been  
formally  
appointed

# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

	Classification	Caveat	Precedence
	CONFIDENTIAL		IMMEDIATE
TC	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ..... CONFIDENTIAL .....		
CAVEAT	PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX .....		
FM	FM (post) .....		
TO	TO (precedence/post) TO IMMEDIATE PARIS .....		
TELNO	TELNO/TELELETTER .....		
OF	OF (Time of origin) ..... Z (Month) ..... (Year) .....		
AND TO	AND TO (precedence/post) .....		
	AND TO SAVING .....		
INFO	INFO (precedence/post) .....		
	INFO SAVING .....		

Distribution:—  
 European Political  
 cc: No 10  
 Downing Street

**FORMATION OF NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT: MESSAGES**

1. My three immediately following telegrams contain texts of messages from the Prime Minister to President Mitterrand, M Chirac and M Fabius. Please ensure that the messages to Mitterrand and Chirac are delivered as nearly as possible at the same time. Signed originals follow by bag.
  
2. Number 10 will confirm, if asked, that the Prime Minister has sent messages to Mitterrand and Chirac but that the contents are private. We do not propose to refer publicly to the Prime Minister's message to Fabius.

		Catchword:	
File number	Department WED	Drafted by : (block capitals) C A MUNRO	Telephone no. 233 4759

File No. ....

Department .....

Drafted by  
(Block Capitals) .....

Tel. Extn. ....

OUTWARD

TELEGRAM

Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL
Precedence IMMEDIATE
DESKBY .....Z

FOR COMMS. DEPT. USE	Despatched (Date) ..... (Time) .....Z	POSTBY .....Z
----------------------------	--	---------------

PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) ..... Z (G.M.T.) (Restrictive Prefix) .....

(Security Class.) CONFIDENTIAL (Caveat/  
Privacy marking) .....

(Codeword) ..... (Deskby) ..... Z

TO IMMEDIATE PARIS Tel. No. .... of  
(precedence) (post)

AND TO (precedence/post) .....

AND SAVING TO .....

REPEATED TO (for info) .....

SAVING TO (for info) .....

Distribution:-

European Political  
cc: No 10

[TEXT]

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT MITTERRAND

Message Begins

I have followed with great interest the recent elections to the National Assembly in France and have <sup>now heard</sup> ~~today learned~~ of your appointment of Monsieur Chirac as Prime Minister.

I shall of course be sending him a message of congratulations but I wanted at the same time to send you my warmest personal good wishes for the future. I look forward to working with you as closely as ever on the many occasions we shall be meeting.

~~With warm personal regards~~

Message Ends

Copies to:-

[Too much of a hostage - Chirac will want it to be less done.]

# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

	Classification	Caveat	Precedence
	CONFIDENTIAL		IMMEDIATE
TC	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ..... CONFIDENTIAL .....		
CAVEAT	PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX .....		
FM	FM (post) .....		
TO	TO (precedence/post) ..... TO IMMEDIATE PARIS .....		
TELNO	TELNO/TELELETTER .....		
OF	OF (Time of origin) ..... Z (Month)..... (Year).....		
AND TO	AND TO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	AND TO SAVING .....		
INFO	INFO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	INFO SAVING .....		

Distribution:-  
 European Political  
 cc: No 10  
 Downing St

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MONSIEUR JACQUES CHIRAC

Message Begins

*on your success in the next elections e*

I send you my warmest congratulations on your appointment as Prime Minister of France. I wish you every success in your new responsibilities and look forward to working closely with you and your Government. ~~I have every confidence that, together, we shall be able to strengthen still further the friendly relations between our two countries.~~

Message Ends

*A Fred me*

		Catchword:	
File number	Department	Drafted by : (block capitals)	Telephone no.
	WED	C A MUNRO	233 4759

# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

	Classification	Caveat	Precedence
	CONFIDENTIAL		IMMEDIATE
TC	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ..... CONFIDENTIAL .....		
CAVEAT	PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX .....		
FM	FM (post) .....		
TO	TO (precedence/post) <u>TO IMMEDIATE PARIS</u> .....		
TELNO	TELNO/TELELETTER .....		
OF	OF (Time of origin) .....Z (Month).....(Year).....		
AND TO	AND TO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	AND TO SAVING .....		
INFO	INFO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	INFO SAVING .....		

Distribution:—  
 European Political  
 cc: No 10  
 Downing Street

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MONSIEUR LAURENT FABIUS

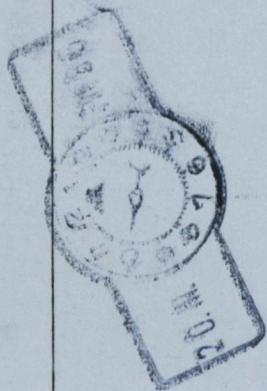
Message Begins

As you leave the Matignon, I ~~send you my very best wishes~~  
~~for the future.~~ *may I say how* My colleagues and I have greatly *I have*  
 appreciated the close and *successful* fruitful cooperation between our  
 two Governments during your tenure of office. *Dy*

~~Message Ends~~

*Colleagues + I send you our  
 best wishes  
 mb*

		Catchword:	
File number	Department	Drafted by : (block capitals)	Telephone no.
	WED	C A MUNRO	233 4759



NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

cpc

21 March 1986

**FORMATION OF THE NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT: MESSAGES**

Thank you for your letter of 20 March enclosing draft messages from the Prime Minister to President Mitterrand, M. Chirac and M. Fabius.

The Prime Minister does not think it would be appropriate for her to send a message to President Mitterrand. She is certain that he himself would not welcome it.

She agrees, however, to send messages to M. Chirac and M. Fabius and I enclose revised texts which may be despatched.

BF ||

(C. D. POWELL)

Len Appleyard, Esq., C.M.G.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

	Classification	Caveat	Precedence
	CONFIDENTIAL		IMMEDIATE
TC	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ..... CONFIDENTIAL .....		
CAVEAT	PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX .....		
FM	FM (post) .....		
TO	TO (precedence/post) ..... TO IMMEDIATE PARIS .....		
TELNO	TELNO/TELELETTER .....		
OF	OF (Time of origin) ..... Z (Month)..... (Year).....		
AND TO	AND TO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	AND TO SAVING .....		
INFO	INFO (precedence/post) .....		
	.....		
	INFO SAVING .....		

Distribution:—  
 European Political  
 cc No 10  
 Downing Street

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MONSIEUR JACQUES CHIRAC

MESSAGE BEGINS

I send you my warmest congratulations on your success in the recent elections and on your appointment as Prime Minister of France. I wish you every success in your new responsibilities and look forward to working closely with you and your Government.

MESSAGE ENDS

Catchword:			
File number	Department	Drafted by : (block capitals)	Telephone no.
	WED	C A MUNRO	233 4759



# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

	Classification	Caveat	Precedence
	CONFIDENTIAL		IMMEDIATE
TC CAVEAT FM TO TELNO OF AND TO  INFO	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION ..... CONFIDENTIAL ..... PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX ..... FM (post) ..... TO (precedence/post) <u>TO IMMEDIATE PARIS</u> ..... TELNO/TELELETTER ..... OF (Time of origin) ..... Z (Month) ..... (Year) ..... AND TO (precedence/post) ..... ..... AND TO SAVING ..... INFO (precedence/post) ..... ..... INFO SAVING .....		

Distribution:—  
 European Political  
 cc No.10 Downing  
 Street

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MONSIEUR LAURENT FABIUS

MESSAGE BEGINS

As you leave the Matignon, may I say how greatly I have appreciated the close and successful cooperation between our two Governments during your tenure of office. My colleagues and I send you our best wishes.

MESSAGE ENDS

Catchword:			
File number	Department WED	Drafted by : (block capitals) C A MUNRO	Telephone no. 233 4759