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PM/90/057PRIME MINISTERIran

1. Following Charles Powell's letter of 12 August to William Waldegrave's Private Secretary, I am writing to let you know of the action we are taking to establish early contacts with the Iranians.
  
2. I have instructed Sir Crispin Tickell to propose to his Iranian opposite number a meeting of officials from London and Tehran in Geneva at the end of next week. The British official will be briefed to go with a broad agenda. The aim will be to demonstrate UK interest in early resumption of relations, and to explore the scope for resolving the outstanding issues of Rushdie, Cooper and the hostages. We should not give the impression that all three are absolute pre-conditions for resumption.
  
3. We shall take stock following this first meeting in Geneva. I would like to return to the question of relations with Syria after my forthcoming visit to the area.

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