

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH MRS THATCHER

You are seeing Mrs Thatcher tomorrow in your room at the House. The main subjects you will want to cover are:

The Gulf

You will want to bring her up to date following your visit to Washington and meeting with President Bush, and assure her that the Government remains unwavering in its determination to see Saddam Hussein withdraw from Kuwait. As you are aware, Mrs Thatcher had some aspiration to visit Saudi Arabia herself before 15 January, but I think now realises this is not feasible (and indeed that any visit must be postponed until much later).

Soviet Union

She will be much concerned about Shevardnadze's resignation and the implications for Gorbachev's revolution, and will be interested in the findings of the IMF report. You will have talked some of these matters through with Sir Percy Cradock and myself this afternoon. You may want to mention your intention to visit Moscow, possibly in the first week in March.

South Africa

She will be pleased at the European Community's decision to start lifting sanctions. I think she intends to visit South Africa in the Spring. There seems no harm in this.

Europe

You might give Mrs Thatcher your reflections on the Rome European Council and the prospects for the two IGCs. The press have tried to make a great deal of a change in style. But in reality the substance of policy - both on Europe and more widely - is very

much that which was endorsed by Cabinet during her time as Prime Minister.

Mrs Thatcher's visit to America

She is intending to visit the United States in early February, concentrating on the mid-West and California (where she will attend President Reagan's 80th birthday celebrations). I think she still intends to pass through Washington, but is coming to understand this is not really a very good time to be seeking out the President for a meeting.

Medal of Freedom

The President has now been in touch with Mrs Thatcher to tell her about the intention to award her the Medal of Freedom (and I see that someone has leaked it to today's Daily Express, which may not please the Americans). The President suggested that she might like to come to Washington "in the Spring", for a ceremony to receive the award, but no precise dates have yet been fixed. The Queen has given her consent.

Domestic Issues

You will know what you want to mention. But an obvious checklist would include the economy/interest rates, Community Charge and the activities of the No Turning Back Group.

There is one other point which I would like to mention to you orally before the meeting.

C.D.P.

C. D. POWELL

2 January 1991

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MISS PHILLIPS

The Prime Minister hopes the meeting with  
Mrs. Thatcher could be on 3 (rather than 4)  
January.

Charles Powell  
2 January 1991

Charles: Fixed for  
3.30 pm.  
tomorrow.



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Sy.

~~Sandra.~~

Re PM needs to  
see Mrs. Thatcher or  
3 James (apartment) or 4  
James in his room in  
the house. Mr. T. agrees.  
Please fix exact time  
with Amanda. C DP 20/12



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Prime Minister

Good. The 3rd.  
would be my preference  
if that is OK,  
for Mr. T.  
A. 29-12

Mrs. Thatcher telephoned me  
to say that she was  
very grateful for your  
letter (which we set round  
this morning). She would  
like to take up your  
offer of a meeting, &  
would prefer to do it before

you go to the City.

He agrees that your  
room in the House would

be the appropriate place.

He returns from Switzerland

at lunch-time on 3

January, I would hope the

meeting could be over

afternoon or the Friday. I

said we would do our

best. C. D. P.