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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 April 1987

Dear Charles,

CDP
23/4

Venice Economic Summit

Thank you for your letter of 22 April. I understand you have offered the Italians a meeting at 11am on Friday 22 May followed by an early lunch. We welcome this.

We suspect that when the Italians say that they want to discuss the 'general political content' of the Venice Economic Summit, they mean the whole range of political and economic issues, including Japanese and other macroeconomic policies, agriculture and debt as well as purely political subjects. The visit should thus enable us to influence Italian thinking on all the important issues in the immediate run-up to the Summit.

In addition, and barring any progress on the subject in the interim, such a visit might provide a good opportunity to make clear to the new Italian Prime Minister our views on arms sales to Argentina, over which the Italians have so far been somewhat evasive.

Yours ever,
L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

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ECON POL: Union Economic Summit PT22

