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From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

VENICE ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Your minute of 3 June attached the Italian first draft of the Economic Declaration for the Venice Summit. The Prime Minister has not yet had an opportunity to read it. But I think she would take the view that it is too long and too wordy and that a text on these lines would risk ridicule.

There is presumably nothing that can be done about this until the text is worked over by Personal Representatives at the drafting session in Venice. But it might ease your task there if officials were to draw up a list of drafting changes which would turn it into a crisper and more effective text, as well as a separate note of points of substance where we would want to see changes. I would like to be able to show the Prime Minister the latter.

I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

CHARLES POWELL

5 June 1987

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