



PM

bc TS  
PC

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

24 January 1989

**POSSIBLE VISIT OF THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER**

Thank you for your letter of 23 January about a possible visit by Signor De Mita. Our letters on this seem to be crossing.

The Prime Minister has agreed to offer a talk on the morning of 26 April followed by a working lunch. I have put this to the Italian Ambassador here. You will no doubt want to ask our Embassy to take parallel action in Rome.

I am copying this letter to Neil Thornton (Department of Trade and Industry).

C. D. Powell

Stephen Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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cc/c



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 January 1989

Jean Charles,

Possible visit of the Italian Prime Minister

Thank you for your letter of 18 <sup>Nov</sup> January about the possibility of a visit by the Italian Prime Minister to the UK on 26 April.

We see no difficulty over the date or arrangements proposed. When Sir Derek Thomas approached the Italians in November about a possible visit, he made it clear that we intended a meeting of Heads of Government only, consisting of a discussion followed by a working lunch or dinner. The Italians accepted this format in principle and the Foreign Secretary sees no reason to alter it.

You may recall (Lyn Parker's letter of 28 October) that De Mita originally intended to be accompanied by a group of prominent industrialists and businessmen and perhaps to give a speech in the City. If he reverted to this idea, we would see no reason to object. It need not affect the arrangements for discussions and a meal with the Prime Minister. If De Mita wanted to bring with him Mr Ruggiero (the Minister for Foreign Trade), we understand that Lord Young would be available on 26 April for separate talks with him.

I am copying this letter to Neil Thornton (DTI).

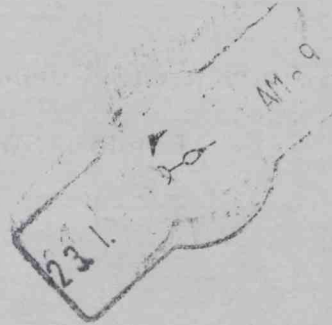
Jam,  
Stephen Wall

(J S Wall)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street



ITALY: Uvets of Uahian PM P12



PRIME MINISTER

POSSIBLE VISIT OF THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER

Signor De Mita has reverted to the idea that he should visit London briefly to talk to you this Spring. You encouraged this when he spoke to you at the Anglo/Italian Summit last Autumn.

De Mita has proposed dates in early May which do not work. We have identified a date in late April - Wednesday 26 April - when you could have a talk with him and a small working lunch. I attach relevant passages of the long-term diary so that you can see your other engagements about then.

I think it is probably worth clearing this one out of the way if you can bear it. Agree to see him on 26 April?

CDP

Yes not

C. D. POWELL  
23 January 1989

DS3AFQ



Original on  
GERMANY: Pm's meeting  
with Chas Kohl p. 7

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PRIME MINISTER

**SUMMIT MEETINGS WITH EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS**

The next bilateral Summits with France and Germany have been fixed for the second half of February next year. Both are 'away' fixtures.

The Italians have asked whether the next Summit with them can be brought forward to the first half of 1989. This is too soon for another full-scale Summit. But we might suggest that if De Mita wished to pay an ordinary visit, say in late April, then you would be ready to see him and offer lunch. We would then argue that the next full-scale Summit need not be until April 1990.

Agree that we should offer the Italians a date in late April next year for a meeting and lunch?

Yes m

There is another point about private meetings. You are to see President Mitterrand at Mont St. Michel on 30 November for a working lunch. When you spoke to Chancellor Kohl on the telephone, you suggested that you might slip over to Germany one Saturday and Sunday to see him. Do you want to pursue this? If so, Saturday, 26 or Sunday, 27 November are really the only possible dates. I attach the relevant section of the long-term diary. The alternative would be to propose a bilateral at the European Council in Rhodes, perhaps over dinner (because of the distance and time difference you will have to travel down there the evening before the Council).

Agree to propose one of these days to Chancellor Kohl?

Yes m

or

Prefer to suggest a meeting in Rhodes?

C.D.R  
CDP

28 October, 1988.



1300 Lunch & Questions Briefing  
 1515 QUESTIONS  
 1545 KEEP FREE FOR MPs  
 1730 Moderator of the Church of Scotland +RC  
 1830-1900 LOOK IN AT LADY PORTER'S RECEPTION + JW  
 RETURN TO NO.10  
 2000 for Dinner for Chief of Defence Staff No.10  
 2015

Friday 25 November

0930 Professor Griffiths +PG  
 1000 Sir Robin Butler +NLW  
 1045 German Ambassador to say farewell + CDP  
 1115 Srdja Dukanovic + TP  
 ?1300 LUNCH WITH BRITISH SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
 \* DISABLED +DT: GROSVENOR HOUSE

Saturday 26 NovemberSunday 27 November

? KEEP FREE + DT

Monday 28 November

0830 Hair  
 1000 Week Ahead Meeting  
 1030 Diary Meeting  
 1100 PLANT A TREE TO MARK NATIONAL TREE WEEK  
 1145 RETURN TO NO.10  
 1200 Mr. Papandreou +CDP  
 1300 Working lunch for Mr. Papandreou + CDP No.10  
 1500 PREVIEW OF DESIGNS FOR NEW EMBASSY IN MOSCOW  
 + HRH DUKE OF GLOUCESTER + CDP DUNBAR COURT  
 1600 Sir Angus Fraser +NLW  
 1630-1730 Value for Money Seminar

Tuesday 29 November

0900 Questions Briefing  
 0930 Lord Young +PG  
 1000 Keep free for speech  
 1300 Lunch and Questions Briefing  
 1515 QUESTIONS  
 1545 CRANLEY ONSLOW +MLB  
 1600 KEEP FREE FOR MPs  
 1700-1800 Interview with "Beeld" + CDP  
 1830 AUDIENCE

Wednesday 30 November

c0930 DEPART LONDON FOR PARIS  
 MEETING WITH M. MITTERRAND + CDP  
 c1630 RETURN TO LONDON  
 1700 Chancellor of the Exchequer +PG  
 1730 Foreign Secretary +CDP  
 1800-1900 Drinks with MPs +MLB





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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 October 1988

Dear Charles,

0100 25/7x.

Possible visit by the Italian Prime Minister

Thank you for your letter of 21 October about the possibility of a visit by the Italian Prime Minister to the UK in the spring.

Sir Derek Thomas has heard that Signor De Mita would probably bring with him a group of prominent businessmen and industrialists and lay some emphasis on industrial and scientific cooperation. He might also give a speech in the City as Signor Craxi did in 1986. This in itself would be welcome, and since Signor De Mita has not yet visited the UK and is so far proving a relatively successful head of government in Italy, we see advantage in getting him here sooner rather than later. There is also something to be said for holding our Summits with the Italians in the spring rather than the autumn with its heavy schedule of regular fixtures.

On the other hand, we could not recommend holding another full-scale summit only six months after the last one. The normal pattern with Italy as well as France and Germany has been annual (or even longer) intervals. In this case we can also look forward to a particularly busy programme of bilateral meetings, including the following:

- Signor Amato, the Finance Minister, has been invited here by the Chancellor in November;
- Mrs Chalker and Mr Patten will visit Rome in November and December respectively;
- Mr Hurd will visit Italy in January;
- the Foreign Secretary will have talks with Signor Andreotti when the latter visits London in January for the opening of a major exhibition of Italian art;
- the Italian Minister for Science has been invited to visit London soon;
- Lord Young is planning a visit to Italy early next year.

These considerations lead the Foreign Secretary to recommend that we tell the Italians that:

- we would not envisage a full-scale summit so soon after the last one, particularly in view of the many other contacts taking place;

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- the Prime Minister would however be very happy to invite Signor De Mita to visit Britain next spring and would offer him lunch and talks;
- if he wished to bring Signor Andreotti with him, we should welcome that;
- since this would in effect be a mini-summit, it might then make sense to think in terms of holding the next full-scale Summit in the spring of 1990, to get back to the traditional rhythm of these meetings.

There might be some risk in this approach that the Italians would seek to expand the meeting or, more probably, the lunch next spring to include other Ministers whom Signor De Mita might bring with him. We believe however that this would be manageable as long as we had made clear at the outset that we did not see this as a full-scale Summit on the traditional pattern.

*longer, L Parker*

(L Parker)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
PS/No 10 Downing Street

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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

21 October 1988

POSSIBLE VISIT BY THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER

At the end of the Anglo-Italian Summit on 21 October, Signor De Mita's Diplomatic Adviser said to me that Signor De Mita would like the next Summit to take place if possible before the European Council in Madrid next June. He would also like to take the opportunity of the Summit to see something of developments in the United Kingdom, particularly in research and modern technology. For instance, there might be a Summit on a Friday, enabling De Mita to carry out other engagements at the weekend. He hoped we might be able to find a date in the second half of April.

|| It would be helpful to have your comments before I put this to the Prime Minister.

Charles Powell

Lyn Parker, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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