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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 February 1989

*Dear Madame et Monsieur de Vogüé*

I cannot find words to thank you enough for your very kind hospitality last weekend. The Chateau of Vaux-le-Vicomte is a formidable reminder of the power and glory that France already enjoyed in the seventeenth century. Your work in preserving it for future generations deserves the highest praise. I am most grateful to you for taking the trouble to explain the Chateau's history so fully. You were particularly kind indeed to have us to lunch as well - and what a lovely and cheerful family occasion it was! It is the fate of Prime Ministers not to have many free Sundays. I cannot remember when I have enjoyed one so much, and I shall always be grateful to you.

I hope very much that you will let me know, through Ewen, when you come to Britain so that we may have you both to No.10 or Chequers. Meanwhile Denis joins me in sending our warm good wishes to you and all your family - together with our gratitude to your staff.

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

Comte et Comtesse Patrice de Vogüé

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 February 1989

Dear Madame la Directrice,

May I thank you most warmly for your kindness in showing us round the Gauguin exhibition this morning. It made all the difference to understanding the paintings to be able to draw upon your knowledge. The exhibition is remarkable and I shall forever be glad to have had the opportunity to see so much of Gauguin's best work gathered together. Thank you also for presenting me with the catalogue which will help keep fresh the memory of these unique paintings.

Would you also please convey my gratitude to all the members of the museum's staff who helped to make my visit possible.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Madame Françoise Cachin.

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 February 1989

Dear Monsieur le Directeur,

I was most grateful to you for arranging for me to visit the Gauguin exhibition while I was in Paris. To have put together such a remarkable exhibition is a unique achievement. What boldness and colour: one comes away with spirits lifted!

Thank you also for your great courtesy in coming to the Musée d'Orsay for my visit and for making it possible for me to enjoy the pictures in such style.

Yours sincerely

Nagant Thaketa

Monsieur Olivier Chevrillon

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