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LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

28 February 1990

VISIT OF MR YELTSIN

We had an exchange of letters earlier this month about the request from Mr Yeltsin to call on the Prime Minister when he is here in mid-March for the publication of his book. I have subsequently had further contacts with his publishers. I have also had an exchange on the subject with Rodric Braithwaite who advises that, while the Russians would not be very happy, they will not take any position on the issue. In the light of this, the Prime Minister has decided that the best course is to see Yeltsin briefly, but make clear to the press afterwards her continuing support for Mr Gorbachev and his policies. I intend so to inform the publishers and fix an appointment, subject to any comments which the Foreign Secretary might have. I should be grateful if you could let me know his views by tomorrow.

Charles Powell

Richard Gozney Esq Foreign and Commonwealth Office AMANDA PONSONBY

We need to find half an hour in the week beginning 12 March.

Charles Powell
28 February 1990



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