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cc: PC

10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

21 March 1990

Dear Richard,

SOVIET UNION

I wrote to you yesterday about Mr. Gorbachev's suggestion that he and the Prime Minister should talk on the telephone, and proposed that we should arrange this in the days immediately preceding the Prime Minister's meeting with President Bush in Bermuda.

The Soviet Ambassador has now told us that Mr. Gorbachev would very much hope it would be possible to speak before the Prime Minister sees Chancellor Kohl on 29/30 March. The Prime Minister is content to do this. Looking at our diary, the best day would be Wednesday 28 March and we should try to make the Prime Minister available for a talk anytime that day convenient to Mr. Gorbachev. I should be grateful if Sir Rodric Braithwaite could discuss this with Mr. Chernayev and agree a time and how the call should be placed. I assume the Russians would have an interpreter on the line who would interpret both ways. If they prefer both sides to have interpreters, then we would try to arrange for Richard Pollock to do it for the Prime Minister. But it is probably simpler with one.

Yours sincerely,

(C. D. POWELL)

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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