PRIME MINISTER'S PERSONAL MESSAGE SERIAL No. 1198/89



SUBJECT CC MASTER 10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SWIA 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

Vear Round.

10 November 1989

It is a great pleasure to congratulate you on the successful formation of a new coalition. I wish you and your colleagues every success.

I have enjoyed our cooperation in the past and look forward to working with you on the many tasks that lie ahead, in the European Community, in the Alliance, and in our excellent bilateral relations.

Warn regards.

Yours son Day and

His Excellency Dr Ruud Lubbers



## 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

10 November 1989

Thank you for your letter enclosing a message for the Prime Minister to send to Dr Lubbers. She has now signed this and I should be grateful if you would arrange for its immediate despatch.

CHARLES POWELL

R N Peirce Esq Foreign and Commonwealth Office CONFIDENTIAL

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## Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 November 1989

Dan Charles.

## New Dutch Government

The new Netherlands Government was appointed on 7 November after two months of negotiations. Lubbers heads a centre-left coalition with Wim Kok, leader of the Dutch Labour Party, as Finance Minister.

The Prime Minister sent a personal message of congratulations to Mr Lubbers following the Christian Democrats' success in the 6 September elections. We normally advise in favour of delaying any message until a government is formed. Mr Lubbers' victory was an exception. It is still worthwhile congratulating him on continuing as head of government and we therefore suggest that the Prime Minister might send a further message now. I enclose a draft.

(J S Wall)

Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq 10 Downing Street

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NETUSELANDI: Religion Sept 80