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10

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

10 October 1990

Dear Charles

I enclose a fax copy of the Prime Minister's reply to Mr. Kinnock's letter of 8 October. I will send across the top copy as soon as it arrives from Bournemouth.

Yours sincerely

Dominic

DOMINIC MORRIS

Charles Clark, Esq.,
Office of the Leader of the Opposition.

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 October 1990

Dear Mr. Kinnock,

Thank you for your letter of 8 October. I agree it is right that the House should have a chance to debate entry into the Exchange Rate Mechanism when Parliament returns. I understand that discussions are already taking place through the usual channels about the timing and length of such a debate.

Your letter is, however, based on a misconception. I did not announce the decision to apply for membership of the ERM. This was announced, as is appropriate for an important matter of economic policy, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It follows that it should be for the Chancellor to open for the Government.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Barber

The Right Honourable Neil Kinnock, M.P.

*me hm
ce CWO
LPO
HMT*

2