



FILE  
DA

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

30 November 1990

Thank you for your letter of 29 November recommending the Chancellor should convey to Mr. Beregovoy a message from the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister would be very happy for Mr. Lamont to speak in the terms proposed.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Wall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Tancred Tarkowski, Esq.,  
HM Treasury.

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Yes please  
-an excellent idea  
30.11



Prime Minister  
Conker for the

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

071-270 3000

Chancellor to

29 November 1990

Charles Powell Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1A 2AA

Speak as proposed?  
(Beregovoy has also  
written to you, &  
a reply is in  
your signature folder).  
CB 29/11

Dear Charles,

At the French Banking Association annual dinner on Tuesday evening, Chris Crabbie, Economic Counsellor at our Embassy in Paris, passed to Beregovoy the message that Mr Major had just been elected leader of the Conservative Party and would become Prime Minister. Mr Crabbie reports that Beregovoy:

"beamed and adjusted his after dinner speech (a major event in his calendar) to include a warm reference to it. It caused a minor sensation in the hall, since it was the first news the audience had had of it. In particular Beregovoy mentioned the outgoing Chancellor's espousal of the hard ecu, which he described as worthy of further consideration and 'not in the slightest bit absurd!'. It is a point he had made in a slightly lower key the previous day at another gathering."

Beregovoy is, we understand, writing a formal letter of congratulation to the Prime Minister.

The Chancellor thinks it would be a nice touch if he were able to tell Beregovoy at this weekend's informal ECOFIN that the Prime Minister was aware of his kind reference at the French Bankers' dinner, was touched by what he said, and was most grateful for his congratulations.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Stephen Wall in the FCO.

Tarred Tarkowski

T TARKOWSKI  
Private Secretary