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From the Private Secretary

1 May 1987

Many thanks for your letter. The visit to the Soviet Union was indeed interesting and the Prime Minister remains extremely grateful for all your help in preparing for it.

I have received Charles Dick's letter about the implications of removing short range missiles and shall be replying to it with my thoughts.

With best wishes,

(Charles Powell)

Chris Donnelly, Esq.

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Charles Powell Esq
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27. 4. 87

Dear Charles,

I hope that Moscow was as enjoyable as it was successful. Judging by the Soviet press coverage - particularly the PM's speech in full + referring to the UK as a "major western power"; - the Russians attach particular importance to the visit.

For the last 3 weeks I have been in China, & have consequently not been keeping an eye on recent arms control proposals. However, my colleagues here, & we have just finished an updating session. Our specialist on conventional operations, Charles Dick, noted that in western press reports on proposals to remove short range missiles there has been no comment about the impact that this would have on our future ability to deliver advanced conventional weapons.

As this is his area of special responsibility within our team, I have asked him to write to you directly with the relevant technical details, just in case this point has fallen through the net

with best wishes

Chris

