

PRIME MINISTER

SIR EWEN FERGUSSON

Ewen Fergusson is calling on you before proceeding to his new post as H.M. Ambassador in Paris. You will want to congratulate him on his K in the Birthday Honours.

His main task will be to build on the very much improved relations with France which you have developed over the past two years in particular, so that we are in practice a part of a tripartite Anglo/French/German axis at the head of Europe.

You will want to caution him against getting drawn along too quickly by French enthusiasm for Anglo-French/nuclear cooperation, even though the FCO and MOD are quite keen.

You might urge him to keep in touch with M. Barre, who must be a strong candidate for the Presidency.

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*CDP*

CHARLES POWELL

15 June 1987

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