

PRIME MINISTER

CHEQUERS SEMINAR ON DEFENCE

You agreed that we should now add the Chief of the Defence Staff to the list of participants at the Chequers seminar. But Tom King tells me that this would actually cause him some difficulty. He is seeing all the Defence Chiefs beforehand to discuss the line which he should take at the seminar: and on that basis, they are content not to be directly represented, treating the meeting as a political one. Agree to leave off CDS after all?

C.P.

Yes Mr

Charles Powell

23 January 1990

c: Chequers (MJ)

SECRET



18

sw
alc

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

22 January 1990

**SEMINAR ON DIPLOMATIC AND DEFENCE
IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
IN EAST/WEST RELATIONS**

The Prime Minister has decided on reflection that we do need one military representative at the meeting at Chequers on 27 January. I imagine this should be CDS. May I leave it to the Defence Secretary to issue the invitation.

(C. D. POWELL)

Simon Webb, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

SECRET

PRIME MINISTER

SEMINAR ON DIPLOMATIC AND DEFENCE IMPLICATIONS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EAST/WEST RELATIONS

This seminar will take place at Chequers next Saturday. You have already seen Alan Clark's paper for it. Tom King is also producing one, as is the Foreign Secretary. Meanwhile, Percy Cradock has produced a brief note on the Present Situation and Prospects which is intended to serve as an introduction to the discussion. I have circulated it to the other participants. You may like to look at it this weekend.

On a separate point, we have kept the numbers attending the meeting very small. There is one official each from FCO, MoD and Cabinet Office. But the result is that we have no military man taking part. I wonder if this is wise, if only for appearances's sake. Agree to add the Chief of the Defence Staff?

CDP

7/10/90

(C. D. POWELL)

19 January 1990

a:\foreign\seminar (srw)