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Da Lyn

ANGLO-FRENCH SUMMIT: 29 JANUARY

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 1 December about the Anglo-French Summit.

You say that you have no steer about French thinking on the possible involvement of Transport Ministers to discuss the Channel Tunnel. Our view is clear: there are no tunnel or other bilateral transport issues which could conceivably justify a meeting between my Secretary of State and M. Douffiagues on 29 January.

The French would simply use such a meeting to reiterate their well-known grumbles about BR investment and on-train controls, but there is nothing new that we can say to them at this stage. For these reasons I hope that you will squash any French suggestion of a Transport Ministers' meeting as soon as it is made.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell.

R J GRIFFINS Private Secretary

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