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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 April 1990

Prime Minister

Dear Charles,

Keep content with this statement?

Anglo-French Summit, 4 May

OK 26/4

In my letter of 12 April, I said that we would write with ideas on possible themes for inclusion in a joint declaration. You may also have seen Paris telnos 422 and 423.

The Foreign Secretary suggests that we should aim for a statement about the defence relationship. We have assembled a certain amount of material on the other areas listed by the Embassy in Paris (science and technology and cultural affairs), but there is little that is strikingly new. A declaration covering all of this grounds, but which made no mention of EC matters, would risk being counter-productive by highlighting the omission of the latter. I enclose a draft form of words, based on the text which the Foreign Secretary submitted to the Prime Minister before her meeting with President Mitterrand in January.

Yes

The Foreign Secretary thinks that the Embassy's suggestion that the Prime Minister might agree to be interviewed on French television might be looked at after the Summit.

write

We will ~~again~~ soon on the administrative arrangements for the Summit.

I am copying this letter to Simon Webb (MOD).

Yours,  
Stephen Wall

(J S Wall)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street





## DRAFT ANGLO-FRENCH SUMMIT DECLARATION: SECURITY ISSUES

- The Prime Minister and the President agree that, at a time of profound change in East-West relations, there is a strong need for Britain and France to cooperate more closely on defence and arms control issues.
  
- They accordingly asked their Foreign and Defence Ministers in January to supervise an enhanced programme of cooperation across the range of these issues, with particular emphasis on nuclear matters, future security arrangements in Europe and conventional arms control.
  
- They see this as a long term effort, with three goals:
  - first to develop cooperation between their armed forces, building on similarities in scale and structure;
  
  - second to make the fullest possible contribution to the security of Western Europe at a time of uncertainty and potential instability as well as hopes for a safer and freer Europe;
  
  - third to ensure that the opportunities for the further development of East-West relations are pursued, in conjunction with allies and partners, in ways which increase long term stability in Europe.
  
- They received a report from Foreign and Defence Ministers on these issues and agreed to review progress at their next meeting.

FRANCE : Visits of Pres. Mitterand

Part 7.



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*26*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

3 May 1990

*Mr Richard,*

**ANGLO-FRENCH SUMMIT: STATEMENT ON BILATERAL DEFENCE  
COOPERATION**

On reading the revised version of the proposed statement on bilateral Anglo-French defence cooperation, which we hope to agree at tomorrow's summit, the Prime Minister has now commented that it would be improved by the addition to the end of the first paragraph of the words:

"particularly as Europe's only two nuclear powers" (or some variation of that phrase).

It would be most helpful if the Foreign and Defence Secretaries felt able to propose this amendment in the course of their own discussions tomorrow so that we can come to the plenary with it agreed.

*Yours sincerely,*

(C. D. POWELL)

Richard Gozney, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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(EAM)  
C/WOODS/FOREIGN/SUMMIT. THW

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

27 April 1990

Anglo-French Summit

Thank you for your letter of 26 April covering a draft statement about Anglo-French defence relations, which we might aim to issue from the Summit next Friday. I am confident the Prime Minister will be content with this.

I am copying this letter to Simon Webb (Ministry of Defence).

CHARLES POWELL

J.S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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