

PRIME MINISTER

PRESIDENT MITTERRAND

After talking further to President Mitterrand's office, we have arranged for you to travel to Paris to have a meeting with him over lunch on Monday, 14 January. He has proposed the traditional format of principals plus one note taker.

C DP

CHARLES POWELL  
19 DECEMBER 1990

RESTRICTED

FILE SW



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

17 December 1990

*Dear Chancellor,*

**PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MITTERRAND**

When the Prime Minister and President Mitterrand met in Rome, the President urged the Prime Minister to come over to Paris for a fuller talk over lunch or dinner early in the New Year. The Prime Minister agreed to this. I have had a quick look at possible dates, bearing in mind the Prime Minister's visit to the Gulf and the fact that Mitterrand is unwilling to give up any part of weekends. Two possible dates which I have found are Monday 14 January or Friday 18 January, both of which the Prime Minister could manage lunch (and on 18 January dinner as an alternative). But we do need to know very rapidly whether either of them suit the Elysee, because at present we have 18 January identified as a regional tour in this country. Could the Embassy please be asked to consult the Embassy today in the hope that we might get an answer by Wednesday at the latest. It is probably best to give straight to Caroline de Margerie.

*Yours sincerely,  
C. D. Powell*

(C. D. POWELL)

Christopher Prentice, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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SANDRA PHILLIPS

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS

When the Prime Minister met President Mitterrand in Paris he pressed him very strongly to pay an early visit to Paris for a longer talk over lunch or dinner. The Prime Minister explained that he would be visiting the Gulf in the first ten days of January but would like to see the President very shortly after that. Could you let me have a couple of days which I could propose between 10 and 22 January please? Mitterrand refuses to give up his weekends so it would have to be a weekday, possibly a Friday (not a Wednesday which is French Cabinet day). Would Friday 18 January be possible?

C.D.P.

(Regional Team - or Friday 11 Jan,  
if not too soon after the Gulf?)  
S'7/12

Charles Powell

15 December 1990

c: paris (MJ)