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# 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

25 June 1991

THE PRIME MINISTER

Theor Ewen,

Many thanks for being in Dunkirk yesterday and for all the hard work that went into the preparations for the meeting. I know how much effort is required and I am only sorry that there was not time to say thank you in person to all those who had worked for weeks beforehand. I hope you will pass my thanks to all your team.

I think we made some progress on EC issues. The vexation on defence clearly persists. Did France think that the NATO review would weaken the integrated military structure and allow a European defence to begin to take its place? I find it hard to believe that President Mitterrand thinks we were trying to get France back into the integrated military structure by stealth. One is left with the feeling that, beneath the relatively anodyne title 'European defence policy' lurk many of the old French ambitions and hang-ups. As you rightly said in your despatch, there is a fundamental difference of perception. There is no sovereign remedy. But I agree with your prescriptions.

Your Ever, John

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# 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

25 June 1991

Your Facurey,

Peur H. Pelebarre.

Thank you for the warmth of your hospitality in Dunkirk yesterday. It was wonderful to get such a friendly reception. I am only sorry I did not have more time to see your town and meet its people. But Dunkirk was a fine setting for our meetings and the weather did not dampen your generous welcome and hospitality.

Monsieur Michel Delebarre

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## 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 June 1991

Ther Mayor.

I am very grateful to you for your warm welcome today, and for everything that was done to make our meeting a success. I am sorry I did not have more time to meet local people but those I did meet were extremely friendly and contributed to a most enjoyable day.

Monsieur Albert Denvers

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### 10 DOWNING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

24 June 1991

#### ANGLO/FRENCH SUMMIT

The Prime Minister has asked me to pass on his thanks to all concerned in the Foreign Office who were involved in preparing the Anglo-French Summit. I caught an occasional glimpse in Dunkirk of Sheila Waghorn trying to introduce order into a chaos that was not of her making. The Prime Minister was very grateful to everybody involved.

J. S. WALL

Richard Gozney, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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### STEPHEN

#### ANGLO-FRENCH SUMMIT, 24 JUNE

The FCO suggest the Prime Minister might send the following thank you letters:

President Francois Mitterrand

Monsieur Michel Delebarre, Ministre D'Etat Ministre De La Ville Et De L'Amenagement Du Territoire et Maire De Dunkerque (plus a photograph)

Monsieur Albert Denvers, President De La Communaute Urbaine Et Maire De Gravelines (plus a photograph).

The Prime Minister was given a Sevres set of plates by President Mitterrand and an attractively framed 1803 drawing by Gibson entitled "View of Dunkirk from the Road" by the Mayor of Dunkirk.

You were also given a present by President Mitterrand of a leather hanging suit cover which Alex Hart will be bringing back in the van after the Luxembourg trip.

Monica

24 June 1991