

cc Pe
Martin

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 January 1986

Dear Charles,

Anglo-Italian Summit: 12 March

Our Embassy in Rome have discussed arrangements with the Italian Prime Minister's office. Craxi's officials say he is content for the summit to be confined to one working day, 12 March. For internal political reasons, Craxi would like to stick to the original plan and hold it in Florence, probably at the Pitti Palace.

The following programme has been drawn up ad referendum:

- 0645 Take off from Northolt
- 0950 Prime Minister's party arrives at Pisa.
 Greeted by authorities.
- 1000 Leave for Florence by civilian helicopter,
 capacity 12-15. (Additional members of the
 Prime Minister's party travel by Military
 helicopter)
- 1025 Arrival in Florence.
- 1045 Prime Minister's tete-a-tete with Craxi (other
 Ministers hold concurrent bilateral talks).
- 1145 Heads of Government joined by Foreign Ministers.
- 1230 Plenary meeting.
- 1400 Lunch (either in Pitti Palace or at an hotel in
 Florence).
- 1530 Joint press conference (in Pitti Palace).
- 1615 Leave for airport. (Depending on proposed visit
(or 1645) visit to Sala de Cinquecento).
- 1710 Leave Pisa for London.
(or 1740)

/The Italians

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The Italians agree (your letter to Len Appleyard of 19 December) that the Prime Minister be accompanied by the Secretaries of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Defence, the Home Department and Trade and Industry. They may wish to field two Ministers to cover Trade and Industry. They showed no inclination to include Finance Ministers.

* Craxi's office have commented that it would be a pity if the Prime Minister did not put aside a short time to see a little of Florence and suggested that she might visit the Sala del Cinquecento, which now serves as the seat of Florence Town Council. The visit would take half an hour. The Prime Minister could reach the building by walking along the famous private corridor of the Medicis (closed to the public) that runs between the Pitti Palace and the Uffizi Gallery over the Ponte Vecchio.

I should be grateful to know whether the Prime Minister is content with the proposed programme for the talks and arrangements for participation. Sir Geoffrey Howe thinks the Prime Minister would enjoy a brief visit to the Sala del Cinquecento. The Italians would undoubtedly appreciate the Prime Minister's interest. Could you please also let me know her decision on this.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Secretaries of State for Defence, the Home Department, Trade and Industry and the Chancellor of the Exchequer and to Michael Stark.

Yours ever,

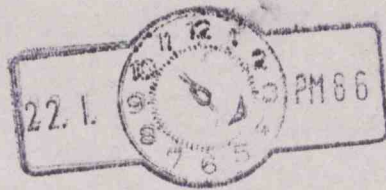
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

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10 Downing Street

** is much recommended
by Robert Cutshaw, who has
been along this route.*

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

22 January 1986

Dear Colin,

ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT

Thank you for your letter of 22 January about the arrangements for the Anglo-Italian Summit.

I confirm the arrangements proposed cause no problems. I would prefer if possible to slip take off until 0700 and save a quarter of an hour on the meeting in which heads of government are joined by Foreign Ministers (limiting this to half an hour from 12 to 1230). I am sure the Prime Minister would be delighted to visit the Sala del Cinquecento.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence), Stephen Boys Smith (Home Office), John Mogg (Department of Trade and Industry) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

(Charles Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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