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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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London SW1A 2AH

18 April 1986

*Surely we had better have a separate bilateral with President Mitterrand? Especially as I have seen M. Chirac*

*Prime Minister  
This all seems a bit cumbersome. I can't believe that a bilateral with Mitterrand & Chirac watching each other like hawks will*

Dear Charles,

Bilateral Meetings During the Tokyo Economic Summit

In his letter of 11 April Tony Galsworthy said we would send separate advice on the possibility of the Prime Minister having a bilateral meeting with her French counterparts once the Foreign Secretary had seen M Raimond at Chevening on 14 April.

*But the FCS clearly sees it as important. Agree? CDP 18/4*

During that meeting M Raimond told Sir Geoffrey Howe that both President Mitterrand and M Chirac would probably be present at the bilaterals the French are arranging with Mr Nakasone and President Reagan. He said the French would follow the same pattern in any other bilateral meetings.

Since then the Prime Minister has of course arranged to meet M Chirac on 26 April. In a sense that naturally lessens the need for a further meeting in Tokyo. But the Foreign Secretary sees a risk that for the Prime Minister to arrive in Tokyo having recently seen M Chirac and without having sought a meeting with M Mitterrand might cause the latter some offence. He therefore recommends that we should seek a bilateral between the Prime Minister and the two Frenchmen together.

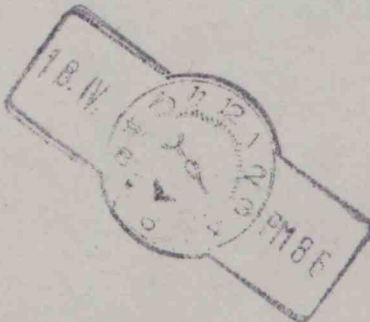
Washington have confirmed that a bilateral between the Prime Minister and President Reagan has been arranged for 1715 hrs on 4 May. Tokyo have also confirmed that they are seeking a suitable slot for a bilateral with Mr Nakasone on either the Monday or Tuesday. Assuming this can be arranged, there appear to be at least three other slots available for bilaterals, which would permit one with the French in addition to those with Mr Mulroney and Chancellor Kohl to which the Prime Minister has already agreed. If the Prime Minister agrees, we will ask the Embassy in Paris to pursue the possibilities with the Elysee and Matignon. I enclose a draft telegram accordingly.

*Yours ever,  
Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
PS/10 Downing Street

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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

**SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG**

This is just to record that the Prime Minister was content with the arrangements for meals at the Tokyo Economic Summit, outlined in your minute of 22 April.

**TIM FLESHER**

25 April 1986

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Ref. A086/1211

MR POWELL

Tokyo Economic Summit

As expected, at the recent meeting of Personal Representatives, the French Personal Representative introduced his proposal that, in order to enable Monsieur Mitterrand to be accompanied by Monsieur Chirac at the dinner of Heads of State or Government on Monday 5 May, the dinner should be extended to be one at which each Head of State or Government was accompanied by one Ministerial colleague. He made it clear that neither President Mitterrand nor Monsieur Chirac would be content for Monsieur Chirac to accompany Monsieur Mitterrand if other Heads of State or Government were to be unaccompanied: for some reason which was not clear, he said that that would be regarded as "an insult to France".

2. I said that the Prime Minister, without in any way wishing to exclude Monsieur Chirac, felt that Heads of State or Government had few enough opportunities to meet among themselves, without other Ministers being present. Occasions when each Head of State or Government was accompanied by another Minister were much less intimate and conducive to frank and informal discussions than meetings with Heads of State or Government on their own.

3. Other Personal Representatives also showed some reluctance to accept the French proposal; and one of them made the point that, if there was to be a second meal at which Heads of State or Government were accompanied by a Minister, Finance Ministers might well think that they should have a turn rather than that Foreign Ministers should have two meals with Heads of State or Government. It was agreed that, once a precedent was set for a

*Prime Minister*  
*This seems a reasonable outcome. No net increase in the number of meals which Heads of Government take with other Ministers*

*CDP 24/4*

*gpc*  
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meal at which Finance Ministers accompanied Heads of State or Government, it would be very difficult to depart from that precedent in future years.

4. The suggestion was then made that Heads of State or Government should take their meal with Foreign Ministers at dinner on Monday 5 May, and have lunch on their own. Monsieur Chirac could then postpone his arrival until after lunch on Monday (he did not in any case intend to arrive until shortly before lunch); and he could take the second French place at dinner on the Monday evening. The French Personal Representative was obviously attracted by this suggestion, and also mentioned that Monsieur Chirac would then be able to travel out to Tokyo by a scheduled aircraft rather than requiring a second special aircraft. The French and Japanese Personal Representatives agreed to recommend this solution to their principals.

5. If that is accepted, the agenda for discussion at dinner on Monday 5 May will be the same as the agenda would have been for the enlarged lunch on the same day: Foreign Ministers will report on the discussion they will have had earlier in the day, and much of the discussion will no doubt turn on regional issues.

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ROBERT ARMSTRONG

22 April 1986

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 May 1986

Dear Charles

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Tokyo Economic Summit: Bilaterals

In your letter of 21 April, you asked us to request a bilateral for the Prime Minister with President Mitterrand. The French have now offered 1800 on Monday 5 May. This is one of two times we have already suggested to the Germans as suitable for the Prime Minister's meeting with Chancellor Kohl. As the Chancellor has already left Bonn en route for Tokyo, we have been unable to finalise the time of this meeting. Our Embassy in Tokyo have been asked to liaise with the FRG Embassy there over timing and say that, while confirmation is awaited, the Germans have indicated a preference for 1800 on Monday too.

The Embassy have pointed out that it might be possible to hold two meetings between the end of the plenary session at 1800 and dinner at 2000. They have asked for discretion to pursue this locally. If the Prime Minister agrees, this would seem the sensible way to proceed, with final details being settled in Tokyo.

Yours ever

(R N Culshaw)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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Ref. A086/1259

MR POWELL  

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Tokyo Economic Summit

I should let you know that Monsieur Attali rang up this morning, to emphasise the importance of the observance of strict protocol in relation to the President of the French Republic at the Tokyo Economic Summit.

2. He emphasised again that, when Heads of State or Government meet on their own, France will be represented by the President of the French Republic. It would be "unacceptable" that he should be accompanied by anybody else, unless each of the Heads of State or Government were also accompanied; and it would be unacceptable for France to be represented by anyone else than the President.

3. The President and the Prime Minister would be entirely content with a proposed arrangement whereby Heads of State or Government would take lunch on their own on Monday 5 May, and would dine with their Foreign Ministers that evening. In that event the second place for France would be taken by Monsieur Chirac.

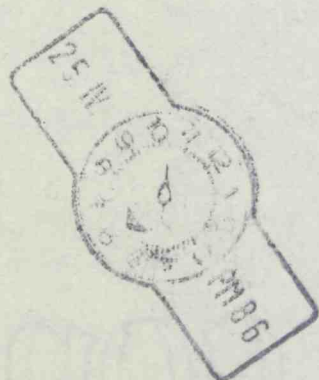
4. I am sure that you were perfectly well aware of all this already, but I thought that I should let you know that he had been at me again about it.

MS

for

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

25 April 1986



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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

21 April 1986

BILATERAL MEETINGS DURING THE TOKYO ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Thank you for your letter of 18 April about the possibility of the Prime Minister having a bilateral with President Mitterrand during the Tokyo Economic Summit.

The Prime Minister thinks it would be faintly absurd to ask for a bilateral with President Mitterrand and M. Chirac together, especially since she would just have had a long session with M. Chirac a few days beforehand. Our request should, therefore, be for a bilateral with President Mitterrand. If the French so arrange matters that M. Chirac is also present, that is their affair.

I should be grateful if the draft telegram enclosed with your letter could be re-cast in this sense and despatched.

CHARLES POWELL

Colin Budd, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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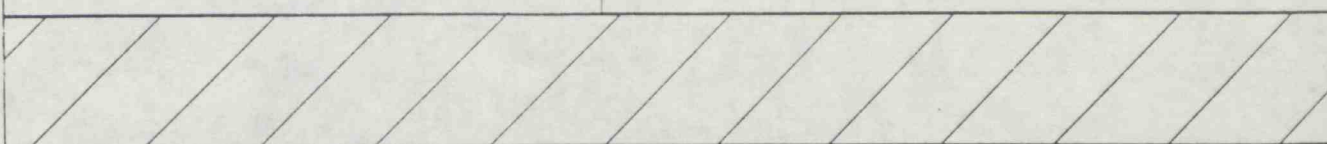
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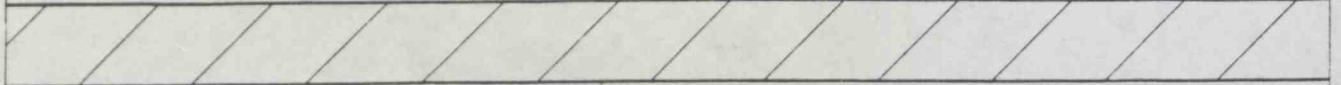
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Pm's TOURS - Korea + Japan - may '86.