

CONFIDENTIAL



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From the Private Secretary

18 November 1987

EUROPEAN COUNCIL, COPENHAGEN

Thank you for your letter of 18 November about the travel arrangements for the European Council in Copenhagen. I agree to what is proposed and will let you know as soon as a bilateral with Chancellor Kohl is fixed. I also agree that the VC10 should be on standby from 1800 on the Saturday. My feeling is that the Prime Minister will want to return to London on the Saturday night, however late.

C. D. Powell

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CDT

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18 November 1987

*Dear Charles,*European Council Copenhagen: 4-5 December 1987Travel Arrangements

An RAF VC10 has been booked to transport the Prime Minister, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and members of the party from London to Copenhagen on 3 December and return on 5 December.

Outward on Thursday 3 December

The European Council meeting starts at 1000 hours on Friday 4 December. You are considering a bilateral meeting between the Prime Minister and Chancellor Kohl, possibly on the previous evening before the European Council. When a time for the meeting has been fixed, we will submit a timetable for the flight. Flying time is 1 hour 45 minutes. Local times are London = GMT, Copenhagen = GMT + 1.

Return on 5 December

The European Council is formally scheduled to end with a lunch at 1300 hours followed by the Presidency's Press Conference and the Prime Minister's own Press Conference.

Although the Presidency hope that the the meeting will end on schedule, they are ready for it to continue late in to Saturday evening (they are making contingency arrangements to provide dinner). They say they have no intention of breaking on Saturday night to resume on Sunday. We therefore recommend that the RAF VC10 should go initially on standby for departure at 1800 hours; a take off at that time would give an arrival time at London Heathrow (Southside) of 1850 hours. (Flying time: 1 hour 50 minutes.) Taking into account the crew duty hours the very latest take-off time could be 0500 hours on 6 December.

/Accommodation

Accommodation

The Suites and rooms at the Sheraton Hotel have been provisionally booked for the nights of 3-5 December inclusive. The Presidency has advised the Delegations to retain their accommodation for the night of 5 December. So far only the French have reserved rooms for the extra night. For technical reasons, we propose retaining the Principals' Suites, and rooms designated for the Private Secretaries and Private Offices. Would you wish us to keep on the rooms for the remaining VC10 passengers for the night of 5 December, or would the Prime Minister want to return immediately, however late the meeting finishes?

10/12/68

L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

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