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From the Private Secretary

28 November 1989

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: STRASBOURG

Thank you for your letter of 28 October about the delegation for the European Council in Strasbourg. My impression is that the number of officials is continuing to increase from the satisfactorily low levels which we have achieved in recent years. It has always seemed to me that, provided the briefing beforehand is good enough, we do not need large numbers of officials actually to be present throughout the European Council, indeed it is largely a waste of their time. Might I ask you very kindly to re-examine the case for quite so many before I put the letter to the Prime Minister for decision?

CDL and Stephen Wall
dealt with by phone.

C. D. POWELL

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