

PERSONAL

PRIME MINISTER

CDP
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EGYPT: Visits of Pres. Mubarak PR2

PARTICIPATION IN TALKS

May I mention a slight delicate question of participation in two forthcoming sets of talks.

You are to see President Mubarak on Tuesday for an hour or so. He will probably have his Foreign Minister with him.

Sir Geoffrey Howe is in Brussels and cannot attend. The Foreign Office are asking whether Mr Mellor should be present. While there might be some advantages, the risk is that it will turn into an occasion for lionising Mr Mellor on his past performance in Gaza. I am not sure that this will be the best use of the meeting or the right signal from it. Since you normally see foreign Heads of Government without ministerial support, it might be best to stick to such an arrangement this time. No

When Chancellor Kohl comes on 2 February he is not bringing Teltschik but Stavenhagen who is a sort of Minister of State in his office. The Foreign Secretary and all our Community experts will be in Brussels for the conclave of European Ministers. I would suggest that rather than bringing in someone of equivalent ministerial rank to Stavenhagen, you follow your normal practice of seeing the Chancellor on your own with just me to take a note.

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CDP

Charles Powell

22 January 1988