



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 February 1990

Dear Charles,

CCP 572

German Unification

As I mentioned on the telephone, the German press are still misrepresenting the Government's position on German unification. The Foreign Secretary's speech in Bonn tomorrow will set out the Government's position in full but there may also be scope for the Prime Minister to do so in answer to a question from Mr Michael Latham MP which is down for answer tomorrow.

A possible reply to a supplementary would be:

"My rt hon Friend the Foreign Secretary is setting out the Government's position in a speech in Bonn today. We in Britain have accepted, and indeed advocated, the right of self-determination by the German people for many years. It is inconceivable to us that of all the peoples in Europe, only the German people should be denied that right. It is for the German people to take that decision. If they do so, a number of highly practical issues will arise in which, as the Federal Chancellor has pointed out, Germany's friends and neighbours will be intimately involved."

Yours,
Stephen Wall

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