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EAM

bc PC

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

16 February 1990

I enclose a copy of a message to the Prime Minister from Mr Haughey about the proposed meeting of EC Heads of State or Government in April to consider developments in Eastern Europe and their implications for the European Community. A covering letter from the Irish Ambassador mentions that the Taoiseach is likely to propose 28 April as the date of the meeting. The Prime Minister could manage that.

The Irish already know that the Prime Minister has in principle accepted the invitation to attend the meeting, but we ought to send a formal reply and I should be grateful for a draft.

I am copying this letter to John Gieve (Treasury), Martin Stanley (Department of Trade and Industry), Andy Lebrecht (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods) and to Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

J S Wall Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

AMBASÁID NA hÉIREANN, LONDAIN.



IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

17 Grosvenor Place

SW1X 7HR

CCPC

CSP 16/2

16 February 1990

Mr Charles D Powell  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

Dear Private Secretary

I have been asked by An Taoiseach, Mr Charles J Haughey TD, to forward to the Prime Minister, The Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP FRS, the enclosed text of a letter dated today regarding the holding of a special informal meeting of the Twelve Heads of State or Government in April. The Taoiseach is writing in similar terms to all members of the European Council.

I should be grateful if you would bring the Taoiseach's letter to the attention of the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Andrew O'Rourke', is placed above the printed name.

Andrew O'Rourke  
Ambassador

P.S. I now understand that the Taoiseach is likely to propose that the meeting take place on 28 April.

*Prime Minister*  
*The Taoiseach's letter about the*  
*proposed special informal meeting* (2)

TEXT OF A LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1990 FROM AN TAOISEACH, MR CHARLES J HAUGHEY TD, TO THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON MRS MARGARET THATCHER MP FRS

*of the European Council. He has*  
*in mind Saturday 20 April.*

Since we last met at the European Council in Strasbourg in December, the situation in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has continued to evolve. This evolution has not been uniform but overall it has been positive. We have all followed it with much sympathy, together with concern to advance and support favourable developments.

*CD.*  
*16/2.*

The speed of events in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has been such that already we felt it necessary as Presidency to propose the convening of a special, informal meeting of our Ministers for Foreign Affairs. This meeting took place in Dublin on 20 January. I know that your Government welcomed this meeting, which provided the occasion for the Twelve to determine the broad lines of their policy in the face of the momentous developments on our continent.

On that occasion, our Ministers for Foreign Affairs reaffirmed the commitment to the Community's own integration process as of central importance in any consideration of the future of Europe. They also agreed in principle on the proposal to organise a meeting of Heads of State or Government of the thirty-five CSCE participating states in the course of the year.

I am sure you will agree that it is extremely important that the Twelve bring their collective voice to bear on the issues that are at present arising and that we take steps to ensure that our own interests are safeguarded and also that the demands that will be made on the Community in the new Europe are taken into account.

In view of the importance - indeed the historic nature - of these issues, I believe that it is essential to arrange a special informal meeting of the Twelve Heads of State or Government in order to take a collective view at the highest authoritative level on these questions. I would therefore wish to propose a meeting in April in Dublin at the level of Heads of State or Government to consider the implications for the Community of developments in Central and Eastern Europe, in particular, the progress towards German unification. In addition, I feel sure that, if well prepared, we can as Twelve make a decisive input into the meeting of thirty five Heads of Government and that the future of our Community as well as that of the entire continent will be well served thereby. I hope you can agree and I look forward to hearing your views on this proposal.

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No: T35/90.

*mt*  
SUBJECT CC MASTER  
OPS.



Oifig an Taoisigh  
Office of the Taoiseach

16 February, 1990.

Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher MP FRS,  
Prime Minister.

Dear Margaret,

Since we last met at the European Council in Strasbourg in December, the situation in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has continued to evolve. This evolution has not been uniform but overall it has been positive. We have all followed it with much sympathy, together with concern to advance and support favourable developments.

The speed of events in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe has been such that already we felt it necessary as Presidency to propose the convening of a special, informal meeting of our Ministers for Foreign Affairs. This meeting took place in Dublin on 20th January. I know that your Government welcomed this meeting, which provided the occasion for the Twelve to determine the broad lines of their policy in the face of the momentous developments on our continent.

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I am sure you will agree that it is extremely important that the Twelve bring their collective voice to bear on the issues that are at present arising and that we take steps to ensure that our own integration process is developed so as to ensure that our own interests are safeguarded and also that the demands that will be made on the Community in the new Europe are taken into account.

CBB 22/2

CF

Have we not  
already received

this

OK

ccp



Oifig an Taoisigh  
Office of the Taoiseach

- 2 -

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*With every good wish,*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Charles Haughey*

Taoiseach.

ASÁID NA HÉIREANN, LONDAIN.



IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

17 Grosvenor Place

SW1X 7HR

26 February 1990

Dear Private Secretary

Further to Mr Haughey's letter of 16 February to the Prime Minister, in which he proposed the holding of a special informal meeting of the Twelve Heads of State or Government, I have now been asked to convey an invitation from the Taoiseach to Mrs Thatcher to attend this meeting, which will take place in Dublin on 28 April.

The intention is to start with lunch, followed by a meeting with discussion continuing over dinner, if that proves to be necessary. It is envisaged that Foreign Ministers will be present at the meeting but will lunch (and dine) separately.

I would be most grateful if you would be kind enough to bring the Taoiseach's invitation to the attention of the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

Andrew O'Rourke  
Ambassador

Mr Charles D Powell  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

GERMANY: Literature in East Germany #2

