



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

3 March 1990

file 6Am
C: / Foreign /
morgan

Thank you for your letter of 1 March. I shall be at the Königswinter dinner and hope very much to see you. But I do not share your interpretation of our policy on Germany. We all support German unification, and have done for more than 40 years. But our aim has been to ensure that the consequences - and these are major - for NATO, for the European Community, for the CSCE and for Germany's neighbours, are fully and properly considered, and so far as possible settled at the same time as unification itself. That required us to speak out quite firmly, and I do not deny that it has irritated some in Germany. But we have now moved from a situation where there was a rush to unification without a thought for the consequences, to one in which we have established the Four plus Two forum to examine the implications for the Four Powers: agreed an EC Summit to look at the consequences for the Community: arranged consultations in NATO: aired the problem of Poland's border. Even with some irritation in Germany, it seems to me cheap at the price: and many others have now followed our lead - as increasingly has the Western press. People sometimes complain of short-termism in financial markets: it is even more of a vice in diplomacy. We have to take the long view and safeguard our interests well into the future.

I see no problem with your form of words, which the Prime Minister has already used many times - qualifying it with the need to straighten out the consequences and avoid the errors of the past.

I look forward to seeing you.

CHARLES POWELL

Professor Roger Morgan

Sent via
Rome Embassy,

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21



Roger Morgan

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

(where I am now - Professor)

1 March, 1990

Dear Charles,
I hope that as an old Königswinter
Land you will be accompanying the Prime Minister to
Cambridge, and I look forward to seeing you again.
I venture to express the hope that the speech
will include something like:

"Let there be no misunderstanding: we rejoice
with our German friends at the prospect of
Germany's unity, which as you know has
been a goal of British policy throughout
the forty years of our alliance, and still is."

Something on these lines might help to rectify
a situation in which Bush, Mitterand, Havel, and
now even Andreotti look like reaping the benefits of
sounding positive about Germany, while British
interests suffer as a result of the Prime Minister -
rather in characteristically - "accentuating the negative."

Ciaou to Carla and yourself!
Yours sincerely,
Roger

Charles Powell Esq.