

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

21 June 1990

Dear Charles,

Dublin European Council: Political Union

Foreign Ministers were commissioned to prepare a paper on 'political union' for the European Council next week. You may like to see the enclosed copy, as agreed at the Foreign Affairs Council on 18 June subject to minor drafting changes. It should be circulated soon by the Presidency.

The paper sets out broad issues which an Inter-Governmental Conference might address. It does not try to provide answers, nor to define 'political union'. But it does reflect (at 2(c)) the Prime Minister's point - now widely accepted - about what is not implied by political union.

The paper still has defects. For example, whereas Section 5 rightly describes the idea of a common foreign and security policy as only a proposal, the matching passage in Section 2 assumes acceptance of that proposal. Similarly, there is an unsatisfactory reference in Section 3 to the extension of competence. The Foreign Secretary argued against both points at the Foreign Affairs Council.

But on balance the paper has come out well. The series of points about enforcement and implementation in Section 4 is useful, and there are pegs on which we could in due course hang every one of the possible UK IGC proposals we discussed in OD.

The Foreign Secretary wrote to Delors and Baron urging new procedures for securing improved implementation. I enclose their replies, which are satisfactory.

Immigration

Yours,
Stephen Wall

(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

22 June 1990

See Stephen.

DUBLIN EUROPEAN COUNCIL: POLITICAL UNION

Thank you for your letter of 21 June about the paper prepared by Foreign Ministers on 'Political Union' for the European Council. The Prime Minister has now read the paper and does not entirely agree that on balance it has come out well. Particular points to which she has drawn attention are:

- paragraph 3, first sub-paragraph: the reference to co-decision, and sub-paragraph 3: greater role for the European Parliament;
- paragraph 4: the indent referring to strengthening the executive role of the Commission;
- paragraph 5: the reference to transfer of competence to the Union and to a single decision-making structure.

I just let you know this since they are points which the Prime Minister might pick up in discussion in Dublin.

*Yours sincerely,
C. D. Powell*

(C. D. POWELL)

Stephen Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL