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10 DOWNING STREET - -
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

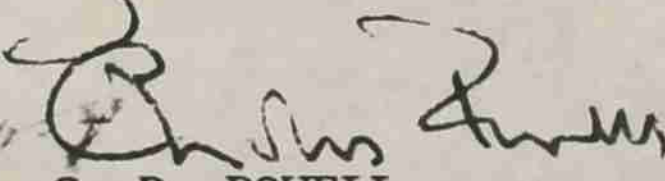
10 September 1990

Dear Simon.

GERMAN UNIFICATION

Herr Teltschik telephoned me this afternoon to explain the position over the celebrations of German unification on 3 October. Chancellor Kohl had not yet invited anyone formally. He had sounded out President Bush to see whether 3 October would be convenient for him. There was no point in issuing invitations if it turned out that the President could not come. The first soundings had not been very promising: the President expected to be involved in the mid-term election campaign. He had also wanted to discuss the matter with President Gorbachev in Helsinki. Chancellor Kohl was due to speak to the President tomorrow and hoped to hear his decision then. In the light of that, he would either invite the Prime Minister and President Mitterrand or abandon the idea of celebrations at Head of State/Government level. We should therefore know the position by tomorrow evening or the following day at the latest.

I said we were quite relaxed about this. Purely on diary grounds, the Prime Minister would probably find it rather easier if President Bush found that he could not manage 3 October. But if others could be present, I had no doubt that she would be too.

Yours sincerely,

C. D. POWELL

Simon Gass, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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From the Private Secretary

5 September 1990

GERMAN UNIFICATION

BE 9
The wire services are saying that Chancellor Kohl has invited the British, American, Soviet and French leaders to attend celebrations marking German unification on 3 October. I should be grateful for very early information on this and on the intentions of other Heads of Government.

(C. D. POWELL)

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

MRM