

cepc

Ref. A086/148

MR POWELL *END*
15/1

The Italian Ambassador rang me at 12.00 noon today, to follow up the matter raised with me by Signor Vattani on 2 January (see Mr Stark's minute to you of 3 January, Ref. A086/49).

2. Signor Bottai said that his Government were upset by their exclusion from the meeting of the Group of Five which was going to take place later this month; and that Signor Ruggiero had asked him personally to say to me that there were rumours in Rome that the opposition to Italian attendance at the meeting had come from London and that, if that were so, he was very sorry.

3. I thanked the Ambassador for the message. I said that I had not been concerned with the arrangements and preparations for the meeting of the Group of Five, and I did not know whether there was any truth in the rumours apparently circulating in Rome.

4. I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

15 January 1986

Econ P01: Exchange Rate Pt 2