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From the Private Secretary

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10 DOWNING STREET

19 December 1985 Many Staff

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ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT

Thank you for your letter of 18 December about the arrangements for the Anglo-Italian Summit.

I am afraid that the Prime Minister is not willing to travel to Italy on the evening of 11 March. She is determined that these bilateral summits shall be confined to a single day, a policy we have now successfully implemented with France and Germany and she wishes to follow it in the case of Italy too. I must ask you, therefore, to explain to the Italian Government that the pressure of the Prime Minister's other engagements at that time unfortunately make it impossible for her to arrive before the morning of 12 March, though she is ready to make a very early start from London in order to enable her meetings to begin promptly. If in the circumstances the Italian Government conclude that it is not feasible to hold the summit in Florence but prefer it to be elsewhere where there is a major airport, she would quite understand.

The Prime Minister is content with the proposal to limit Ministerial attendance in the way set out in your letter.

I am copying this letter to Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

(Charles Powell)

Len Appleyard, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



c. Hanning Staff Mr. Derek Trymus or Mr. Anderson Mr. Clarke

Mr Herletv Private Secretary to the

Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP Foreign and Commonwealth Office LONDON SW1A 2AH

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THE PRIME MINISTER'S FORWARD ENGAGEMENTS

My Secretary of State has seen a copy of your letter of 28 November to Mark Addison about engagements which the Prime Minister might undertake outside London over the next six months. Mr Younger has already written to Sir Geoffrey Howe about the possibility of holding the EUREKA conference in Edinburgh. He also wishes to endorse the proposal that the Anglo-German summit (or indeed the Anglo-Italian or Anglo-French summits) should be held outside London.

Mr Younger strongly agrees that by holding summits outside London advantage can be taken of local interest to convey better the importance of our relations with Europe; as far as those of us in Scotland (and Wales) are concerned it would also show that the summits are not just "Anglo"-European! Glasgow and Edinburgh are certainly potential locations. Communications with London and major European centres are locations. Communications with bottom meetings and sufficient hotel good and both cities can provide venues for meetings and sufficient hotel when possessed accommodation for all those involved, directly or indirectly. Both (Glasgow and Edinburgh would attract interest from the European press. We should certainly be able and willing to put our local knowledge at the dispoal of the organisers of any summit.

> I am copying this letter to Mark Addison (No 10); Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence); John Mogg (Department of Trade and Industry); Colin Williams (Welsh Office) and Sir Robert Armstrong.

> > Your sincrely

ROBERT GORDON Private Secretary





MPLNAN BIII FHPAN 1409

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 December 1985

Dear Charles, Anglo-Italian Summit

Thank you for your letter of 29 November. We asked the Embassy in Rome to check with the Italian Prime Minister's office if 12 March 1986 would in principle be a suitable date for the next Anglo-Italian Summit. That date is free in Craxi's diary. The way is now clear for you to put it to the Prime Minister.

As and when a date is agreed, the Italians would very much like the Prime Minister to arrive on the evening of the day before. This would be consistent with the arrangements discussed with Craxi's office when we were planning the summit for October. The Italians would not welcome a proposal to confine the meeting to one day: and travelling times would make the programme very tight. The Prime Minister could fly to Pisa on Tuesday evening and travel to Florence by car or helicopter.

Lord Bridges suggests that, depending on the Prime Minister's other engagements on 11 March, there might be time after her arrival for a short tete-a-tete with Craxi and a working dinner. If she wished, the Prime Minister might spend a short period sightseeing early on 12 March. The summit would then follow the usual pattern: discussions, a short plenary followed by a press conference and a late lunch. The Prime Minister would be back in London by late afternoon (Italy will be one hour ahead of the UK in March) .

The Italians have made clear their preference for small Ministerial teams. We suggest that the Prime Minister might be accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Heseltine, Mr Brittan and Mr Hurd. Lord Bridges agrees.

If you confirm that 11-12 March will suit the Prime Minister, we shall alert the offices of the Ministers who may be involved. Meanwhile I am copying this letter only to Michael Stark.

IC. T. NILSON OABSO 94

Your wo.

(L V Appleyard) Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq 10 Downing Street CONFIDENTIAL

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D J M Dain

Western European Department

DATE: 17 December 1985

Private Secretary

cc: PS/Mr Rifkind

PS/PUS

Mr Derek Thomas

Mr Braithwaite Mr Renwick

Mr Shepherd Mr Wall

Planning Staff

ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT

Mr Powell wrote on 29 November asking that the Embassy in Rome propose, without commitment, 12 March 1986 for the next Anglo-Italian summit.

Rome have discussed the date and other aspects of the Summit with Signor Craxi's office. I submit a selfexplanatory draft.

D J M Dain



Private Secretary

pa 18/12

FROM: D J M Dain

Western European Department

DATE: 17 December 1985

cc: PS/Mr Rifkind

PS/PUS

Mr Derek Thomas

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Mr Shepherd

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As regards participation, the Italians have made clear their preference for small teams. We suggest that the Prime Minister might be accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Heseltine, Mr Brittan and Mr Hurd. Lord Bridges agrees.

If you confirm that 11-12 March will suit the Prime Minister, we shall alert the offices of the Ministers who may be involved. Meanwhile I am copying this letter only to Michael Stark.





Mr Brum Word

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

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We agreed that it made sense to think of a date before the March European Council (assuming it is maintained) and to continue to plan on holding the meeting in Florence.

I have now had a look at the diary and find that the Prime Minister could manage a meeting on Wednesday 12 March. Could the Embassy please discuss this without commitment with the Italians. I shall need to speak to the Prime Minister before we go firm.

(C. D. POWELL)

C.R. Budd, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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FROM T L RICHARDSON ROME FOR D J M DAIN ESQ. WED. FCO

NEXT ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT

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- 2. WHEN I SAW VISCONTI IN CRAXI'S DIPLOMATIC OFFICE LAST WEEK, HE TOLD ME THAT 12 MARCH WAS FREE IN CRAXI'S DIARY. THE WAY IS NOW CLEAR, THEREFORE, FOR YOU TO PUT THIS DATE TO THE PRIME MINISTER. VISCONTI ASSUMED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY WOULD ARRIVE ON 11 MARCH, AND THIS REFLECTS THE ARRANGEMENTS, SPREAD OVER TWO DAYS, THAT WE DISCUSSED WITH THE CHIEL WHEN WE THOUGHT THAT THE SUMMET WOULD TAKE PLACE THIS OCTOBER. I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY WILL BE PREPARED TO ARRIVE ON 11 MARCH. YOU WILL KNOW FROM PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE, FOR EXAMPLE THE AMBASSADOR'S TELNO 698 OF 22 DECEMBER 1983, THAT THE ITALIANS WOULD DISLIKE ANY ATTEMPT TO CONFINE THE SUMMIT TO ONE CALENDAR DAY. THE ARGUMENTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR THEN ADVANCED STILL APPLY: THE WEATHER IN MARCH MIGHT BE UNRELIABLE, THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST BILATERAL SUMMIT FOR OVER A YEAR AND WE NEED A BIT OF A PUBLICITY SPLASH, AND THERE IS THE ADDITIONAL FACTOR THAT THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY WILL HAVE TO LAND AT PISA AIRPORT AND THEN TAKE A HELICOPTER OR DRIVE TO FLORENCE. THUS MAKING FURTHER INROADS INTO THE TIME AVAILABLE FOR THE TALKS THEMSELVES. (IF THE PARTY ARRIVED BY ANDOVER, IT COULD LAND AT FLORENCE'S SMALL AIRPORT BUT THE FLIGHT ITSELF WOULD TAKE LONGER).

Mizmai

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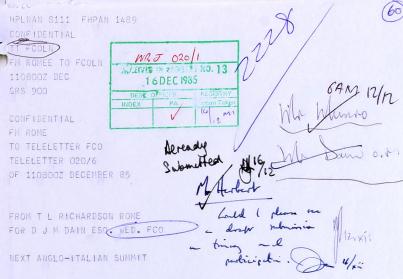
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SIGNED T L RICHARDSON

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