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From the Private Secretary

28 November 1986

ANGLO-FRENCH NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION: DISCUSSION WITH M. GIRAUD

The Prime Minister has seen a copy of your note of 24 November summarising the discussion between the Defence Secretary and M. Giraud on nuclear co-operation at the Anglo-French Summit. Some of the proposals made by M. Giraud go well beyond the limits of discussion with the French agreed collectively by Ministers. This refers particularly to paragraph 2 and 3(c) and to aspects of 3(a). The Prime Minister would not want any further contacts to take place with the French on these matters before there has been further Ministerial consideration and agreement on the line which we should take. The next step might be for your Secretary of State to circulate a paper setting out a proposed response to M. Giraud, which could form the basis for a discussion between Ministers.

I am copying this letter to Tony Galsworthy (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Charles Powell

John Howe, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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