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*From the Private Secretary*

24 March 1987

THE BERLIN FOUR

*SUBJECT "made ops"*

As you will see from my records of the Prime Minister's talks with President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl yesterday, there was a strong inclination to see the three countries work together more closely, initially on arms control issues. The Prime Minister welcomed this. She also suggested privately to both the President and the Chancellor that there should be more use of Berlin Four meetings at Head of Government level.

The Prime Minister is anxious to see these ideas followed up, although well aware of the risks of being seen to take any sort of initiative publicly. Her interest focuses on three points:-

- the possibility of re-establishing a Berlin Four breakfast at Head of Government level at the next Economic Summit. She recalls that the last one was in 1972 or 1980.
- instituting a Berlin Three breakfast, again at Head of Government level, as a feature of European Council meetings.
- following up Chancellor Kohl's proposal for close Anglo/German/French consultations on current arms control issues. She would like to see a first meeting held by the end of April.

*BA/11*  
The Prime Minister would welcome the Foreign Secretary's view on how best to take these ideas forward. On the third, the initiative lies with Teltschik, but we may need to stir the Germans into action if we hear nothing from him by early April. Subject to your views, I would propose to telephone him then.

Charles Powell

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