

PRIME MINISTER

EAST WEST RELATIONS

I attach the Foreign Office's reply to the letter which I sent on your behalf asking for work to be done on the implications of the changes in Eastern Europe for our foreign and defence policy. The reply suggests plenty of activity but tells us very little about the nature of it.

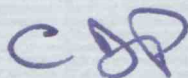
I think you will need to get together those principally concerned, perhaps one Saturday or Sunday at Chequers, to talk it through. I think it is worth waiting for some papers to emerge so that we have a solid base for discussion. In practical terms this points towards a date at the end of January/early February.

Would you agree to a little internal seminar at Chequers at that time? It might be attended by

- The Foreign Secretary
- The Defence Secretary
- Mr. Waldegrave
- Alan Clark
- Sir Percy Cradock
- John Weston
- A senior MOD official.

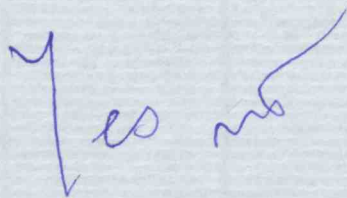
I think it would be better to keep it official given the sensitivity of some of the issues.

Agree to this?



C. D. POWELL

12 December 1989



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MRS GOODCHILD

CHEQUERS: 27 JANUARY

There will be a meeting at Chequers at 0930 on Saturday 27 January, to be followed by a working lunch. The event will finish at c1430/1500. Those attending will be:

Prime Minister
Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Secretary of State for Defence
Mr Alan Clark (Minister for Defence Procurement)
Mr William Waldegrave (Minister of State, FCO)
Chief of the Defence Staff
Sir Percy Cradock
Mr John Weston (Deputy Secretary, FCO)
Mr Richard Mottram (Deputy Secretary, MoD)
Mr Len Appleyard (Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Office)
and me.

Could you please make the necessary arrangements with Dorothy Haines.

C. D. POWELL

22 January 1990

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MRS. PONSONBY

The Prime Minister needs a small seminar type meeting at Chequers at the very end of January or early February. The essential participants are the Foreign Secretary, Defence Secretary, Mr. Waldegrave and Mr. Alan Clark. Could you please try and identify a half day - possibly a Friday or Saturday - when this could be done.

CDP

13 December 1989