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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

3 August 1992

Thank you for your letter of 31 July and the draft message from the Prime Minister to the President and other members of the Slovenian Government.

I enclose the Prime Minister's reply and would be grateful if you could arrange for it to be delivered.

J. S. WALL

C.N.R. Prentice, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET
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THE PRIME MINISTER

3 August 1992

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your letter of 26 June. I am replying as President of the European Council on behalf of my colleagues.

I welcome the progress which Slovenia is making in consolidating democracy and developing an effective market economy. Together with the other states of Europe, Slovenia and the member states of the European Community share a common tradition and cultural heritage. It is right that Slovenia should play a full role in the Europe of today.

At its meeting in Lisbon on 26-27 June, the European Council stressed its determination to help the peoples of the former Yugoslavia in their quest for a peaceful future in Europe. The Council reaffirmed the Community's will to develop its partnership with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The immediate priority for the Community's relations with Slovenia is the early conclusion of the new Trade and Cooperation Agreement, now under negotiation. Once this is agreed and enters into force, the Community will wish to consider, together with Slovenia, how relations could be developed still further.

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I hope we can continue to work closely together in shaping the Europe of the future, in which - as Preseren wrote - those across the borders will not be enemies, but neighbours.

Yours Sincerely,
John Major

His Excellency Mr. Milan Kucan