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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG
CABINET OFFICE

Bonn Economic Summit

Your minute of 20 March about the meeting of Personal Representatives next weekend to prepare for the Bonn Economic Summit enclosed a German draft of the thematic paper for the Economic Summit.

The Prime Minister has considered your minute and the draft and is broadly content subject to a number of comments.

Taking the points in paragraph 6 of your minute seriatim:

(a) Yes.

(b) The Prime Minister would be content with the phrase which you propose.

(c) The Prime Minister agrees that we should not be too modest about our record of growth.

(d) While the Prime Minister is generally content with the conclusions in paragraph 16 she does not like 16.3. She has commented that Government can only create the framework for industry to respond. The first sentence of 16.3 will therefore need to be modified.

(e) The Prime Minister agrees with the rewording you have suggested and also that the reference to Africa needs to be shortened. She agrees with the Americans that the suggestion that the Summit endorses a general increase of the World Bank's capital should be omitted.

(f) The Prime Minister hopes that we shall indeed take a more positive line than suggested by the official Community position.

(g) Yes.

(h) The Prime Minister agrees that no reference to energy is needed this time.

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(i) The Prime Minister agrees with the aim of a shorter text.

The Prime Minister was pleased to see that we are ready to take the initiative in proposing discussion of terrorism at the Summit.

I have sent you separately the German draft declaration on the 40th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

I am sending copies of this minute to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and the Secretary of State for the Environment.

(Charles Powell)

22 March 1985

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