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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

2 May 1990

ASPEN INSTITUTE: PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH

The Prime Minister is to speak at the Aspen Institute's 40th Anniversary meeting on 5 August. The theme of the meeting is 'Shaping a New Global Community'. The Prime Minister is intending to use the occasion to deliver Bruges II, that is a successor to the Bruges speech but not limited to the European Community. The purpose will be to set out a wider vision of Europe and its role, the direction in which we want to see Europe move and how we see relations between Europe and the United States. It should relate developments in the Community to those in NATO, the CSCE and East/West relations more generally, to present an overall vision of - or design for - the future of Europe. The speech would not deal in detail but in broad thoughts and concepts. I do not yet have a theme for it, although one possibility is a Europe 'united but not absorbed'.

This is an ambitious task: we still need to see what happens at the US/Soviet Summit, the Prime Minister's meeting with Gorbachev, the June European Council and the possible NATO Summit: and this letter does not in itself offer sufficient guidance for any drafting. But it would be helpful if you could invite one or two people to begin to devote some thought to possible themes. I am sure the Prime Minister would be grateful if Mr. Waldegrave and Mr. Maude could take a particular interest. It would also be helpful if a department could be charged with putting together some material.

C. D. POWELL

J. S. Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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