



3(A-B)

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

1 October 1989

See steps,

EC BROADCASTING DIRECTIVE

Thank you for your letter of 30 September with the draft reply to President Bush's recent message about the EC Broadcasting Directive. As you know, the Prime Minister subsequently discussed this with the Foreign Secretary. I have also spoken to the Home Secretary.

I enclose a revised draft of the message, in the form which the Prime Minister would like to send it. She is absolutely clear that our action relates only to the EC Directive and not to the Council of Europe Convention which must be maintained. This is not spelled out in the text, as it seems wiser not to draw attention to it.

The Prime Minister would like the message to be in Washington by breakfast time on 2 October. I should be grateful if you could let me know very rapidly tomorrow morning whether there are any amendments which you would wish to propose.

There is the further question of the arguments we would deploy in Brussels to justify the change in our position. Presumably we shall focus on the protectionist aspects and on the need to be guided by the principle of subsidiarity. But you will no doubt be seeking Sir David Hannay's advice on this.

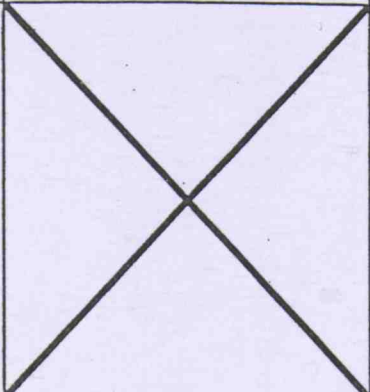
I am sending a copy of this letter and enclosure to Colin Walters (Home Office) and David Hadley (Cabinet Office) with a similar request for comments.

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES POWELL

Stephen Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

A The National Archives

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