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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Yes and dinner
not

21 December, 1984

Prime Minister

Agree to see M.
Fabius on 8 March

CDP 23/12

Dear Charles,

Possible Visit by French Prime Minister

The French Embassy telephoned us this morning to say that M. Fabius had been invited to attend a seminar organised by The Economist on 8 March. He had not yet replied. Before he did so, he wished to know whether, were he to come, there would be any possibility of a meeting with the Prime Minister. The date of 8 March is convenient for him, but I understand The Economist is also flexible about the date.

You will recall that, in her letter to M. Fabius of 3 December, the Prime Minister expressed the hope that he would visit London. This visit would be very brief and is clearly not intended by Fabius as a response to the Prime Minister's invitation. Nor is it clear whether his acceptance of The Economist's invitation is dependent on his seeing the Prime Minister.

If the Prime Minister's diary allows for it, we see every advantage in her agreeing to see Fabius, and perhaps offering him dinner.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

FRANCE
Fabius

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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