

SECRET and PERSONAL

DRAFT LETTER FROM PS/SECRETARY OF STATE TO:

Roderic Lyne
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

As you know it was envisaged at the Prime Minister's meeting on the Joint Declaration Initiative on 9 December that, at the appropriate time, a note would go to Cabinet giving them the text of the Joint Declaration, with briefing lines.

2. This was on the basis that the Prime Minister would secure from Cabinet general authority to complete the negotiations without further reference to Cabinet.

3. I attach a draft letter which, at the right moment, you might wish to send to Private Secretaries to Members of the Cabinet. We envisage that you would attach the finalised text of the Joint Declaration, together with the approved briefing lines. (Work on these is advanced but I do not attach it to this letter.)

4. I am sending a copy of this to John Sawers and to Melanie Leech.

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DUSL/MR/43965-10.12.93