



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 December 1981

*Dear Sir David,*

The New Year has brought with it the end of the UK's responsibility for playing host to the recent series of Summit and other meetings associated with our Presidency of the European Community. I should like therefore to take this moment to express to you my warm thanks for the major part played by the Metropolitan Police and the Special Branch to assure the security of our guests over the last six months. There were many compliments paid to their discreet and courteous efficiency and I know that the high reputation they already enjoy among our European partners will have been further enhanced by the experience of our many visitors during this period.

This was a big and complex operation for your officers and imposed a heavy extra burden on them during a difficult period. Those responsible for other aspects of the Presidency organisation have been high in their praise for the professionalism and co-operation they always encountered from your people both in the planning and the execution stages. Many will have been involved on your side, but I have been asked to single out for particular mention Commander Lashbrooke and Chief Inspector Gaisford who were principally involved in the main Ministerial meetings.

*Yours sincerely*

Sir David McNee, Q.P.M.

*Raymond Maitland*

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