



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

*Receipt Please
ms*

9 March 1982

Prime Minister

*See X. If you agree, could you pl
let me have a cheque.*

A. J. C. $\frac{9}{3}$

Dear Idm,

Mr Mark Thatcher

Thank you for your letter to Francis Richards of 15 February in which you asked, since the Prime Minister had decided that she did not wish any charge to be made to public funds, for a bill for £1,190.95 to be sent to you. You also said that the Prime Minister would meet bills for a total of £583.14, referred to in your letter of 8 February, when they were presented, the total for the two bills being £1,774.09.

Further calculations here show that the sum due, as you will see from the enclosed statement, is in fact £1,784.80. As previously agreed, the Prime Minister is being asked to pay Consular fee 37 (£412.50) instead of the actual costs of air fares and subsistence (items 1 - 3 of the enclosure with my letter of 3 February) plus the cost of accommodating the Swiss Rally team. Although the Prime Minister asked that the bill for this (item 4) should be sent direct to No 10, it was, in fact, presented to and paid by the Embassy Accountant in Dakar and is, therefore, repayable to the FCO. In the event, the final sum due amounts to £129.42.

The remainder of the amount to be met by the Prime Minister is previously agreed telegram and telephone costs (items 5 - 8).

X | I should be grateful, if the Prime Minister agrees, if you would let me have a cheque for £1784.80, made payable to the "Foreign and Commonwealth Office".

/I should

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street



I should incidentally apologise for an incorrect total figure for costs in Francis Richards's letter to you of 10 February. That figure (£2,307.09) did not include the difference between the actual costs of items 1 to 3 and the Consular fee, deducted lower down. The total should therefore have read £2,359.02. After the deductions, the figure of the total cost to the taxpayer should read £1,242.88 and represents the costs of telegram and telephone calls as shown on the attached latest statement of costs.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

MR MARK THATCHER

STATEMENT OF RECOVERABLE FCO COSTS

CONSULAR FEE 37	£412.50
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Accommodation:

Swiss Rally team 1 night in Bamako	£129.42
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Cost of telegrams/telephone calls:

British Embassy, Dakar	166.56
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British Embassy, Algiers	141.73
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British Embassy, Paris	871.31
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FCO	<u>63.28</u>	<u>1242.88</u>
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TOTAL		<u>£1784.80</u>
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