

PRIME MINISTER

Seen

The French Ambassador rang with a message from the French Foreign Minister.

A French Government plane has left France for the Desalit area in Northern Mali to carry out a search. Contacts in Paris with the race organisers have suggested that it might be worth looking in this area. The plane will be operational in the area today. It flies at low speed and medium altitude and has a glass panel in the bottom for observation. The French will also be sending a further plane to operate tomorrow. They will stay in touch.

I thanked the Ambassador very much for his information and said that I knew you would be extremely grateful.

A.J.C.

13 January 1982