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THE PRIME MINISTER

9 July 1981

Dear Michael

David Steel has suggested to me that there would be advantage if I arranged a classified defence briefing similar to the one which Jim Callaghan arranged for the Opposition in 1976.

I agree with him that such a briefing would be useful. I think that it might best be given by a team from NATO, and it would of course be on Privy Counsellor terms. I will seek to arrange it as soon as possible after the Summer Recess.

I very much hope that you will be able to be present at the briefing. If you would like to attend, my office will be in touch with yours shortly to discuss possible dates.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Right Honourable Michael Foot, M.P.