

MR COLES / *AR 6/5*

MR WHITMORE / *AR 6.v.*

PRIME MINISTER

THE PAPAL VISIT

Service at Canterbury Cathedral

Lambeth Palace are still fairly confident that the Pope's visit will not be cancelled, and it might now be timely if you could give further thought to whether you will go to the Canterbury service on Saturday, 29 May (10.30 a.m.). (You have seen the Archbishop of Canterbury's personal letter of 15 April, written after he called on you.) The Cathedral will not be publishing a guest list until shortly before the event, but they are expecting the attendance of the Prince of Wales to be announced sooner than that, probably next week. (He is not taking a part in the service, as had at one time been suggested.) The Lord Chancellor and the Home Secretary have accepted invitations, but this is not yet public knowledge.

The form of the ecumenical service "a Celebration of Faith" (draft attached) was announced last week. It aroused no controversy and received favourable mention in The Times as embodying symbolism which transcends any differences between the Churches. It is certainly no Papal progress and contains sizeable elements of the Anglican Baptism service. It will be led by the Archbishop and the Dean, with Free Church ministers as well as clergy from the Catholic and Orthodox churches also taking part. The use of candles will be confined to an act of homage when church leaders will place candles in a 7-branched candlestick before enlarged photographs of 20th century martyrs (including Bonhoeffer, Luther King and Archbishop Luwum).

/If you decided

*Arrangements in hand of J.S.*

*with Jo + D.T. mb.*

If you decided to go there will be little or no chance for you to meet the Pope. Mr Thatcher has been included in the invitation.

Cardinal's Reception in London

FCO are in process of confirming arrangements for your private meeting with the Pope during the Reception at the Archbishop of Westminster's house, on Saturday, 29 May (evening). Cardinal Casaroli, the Cardinal Secretary of State, would also welcome a short discussion with you immediately following your meeting with the Pope.

Are you content for these arrangements to proceed, and to be accompanied (if at all) by a Private Secretary? (Our Ambassador to the Holy See will be a guest at the Reception, but FCO are not asking for him to be in attendance on you.)

Yes no,

DL

6 May 1982