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At VB

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 October 1983

RATE SUPPORT GRANT 1984-85: WALES AND SCOTLAND

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 25 October reporting on his negotiations with the Chief Secretary. She has noted that there is still a gap between the two Ministers but feels that with further negotiation this gap could be bridged. She would be grateful if the two Ministers could make a further effort to resolve their differences.

She has noted from the Secretary of State for Scotland's minute of 27 October that similar principles arise in the case of Scotland. She would be grateful if the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Chief Secretary could continue their negotiations to see if a settlement can be reached.

I am copying this letter to John Graham (Scottish Office), John Gieve (Chief Secretary's Office) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

ANDREW TURNBULL

Colin Jones, Esq.,
Welsh Office.

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