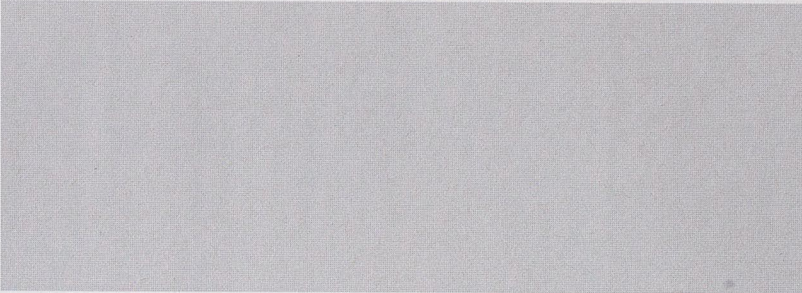


SECRET

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

YOUR MEETING WITH LORD MORAN, TUESDAY,
16 JUNE 1981 AT 15H10

s.19(1)



SCENARIO

The first part of your meeting will follow the routine of protocol. The new High Commissioner will be introduced to you by the Deputy Chief of Protocol, Richard Noyes-Roberts. He will be accompanied by Mr. Emrys Davies, the Deputy High Commissioner. Photographs will be taken immediately and at this point the protocol representatives will withdraw. After the normal courtesies of welcome, you should have about 15 minutes for a substantive exchange with Lord Moran.

You will wish to make reference to your forthcoming meeting with Mrs. Thatcher (Friday, June 26) when you will discuss Summit matters. In doing so you may want to touch on one or two of your key preoccupations regarding the Summit.

The remainder of your conversation should focus on the Constitution.

If the Supreme Court rules favourably, we anticipate no substantive problems with the British Government or Parliament in the passage of the

.../2

- 2 -

SECRET

constitutional bill. What is more, there are a number of signs that the British Government is determined to get the constitutional package through before it adjourns at the end of July, though this may be compromised if the Court ruling comes very late in June. Once it does come, the resolution can be approved and delivered to London in a week.

Your message to Lord Moran might contain the following elements:

- An expression of gratitude and admiration for Mrs. Thatcher's management of the constitutional issue.

Her occasional public statements and British private reassurances have been invaluable. It is an anomaly that we should be engaged in an exercise of this type in 1981 and it requires confident handling on both sides. (Lord Moran himself has used the term "anachronistic".)

- Comments on the Supreme Court Judgment

We are surprised at the delay in the Court's reaching a judgment, and we naturally hope it will come very soon. We know the British Government is pleased we are not coming to Westminster before the judgment. We were reluctant to make Parliament hostage to the courts on what is essentially a political matter, and we are grateful for the understanding the British showed for our position. In any case, we are now tied to the Court and we hope the decision will be favourable. If so, it should have a major impact on opinion both in Canada and at Westminster.

- Observations on the Strategy of the dissident Provinces

We doubt they believe that they can defeat the measure in London. But they are lobbying very hard and their first objective is to achieve delay. We do not know what they would do with the delay, but it must be assumed that if they had the summer to remarshal their forces, they could further complicate the situation.

.../3

- 3 -

SECRET

- Underline urgency

It is thus in the interests of both the British Government and ourselves to ensure that we maintain the momentum that would be created by the court decision and quick action in our Parliament. The Canadian public would not understand an extended delay in London and it would put the Government in an awkward position as there would be inevitable suggestions of differences between our two Governments. What is more, we need to settle the constitutional issue to be able to get on with other issues in our relations with the provinces.

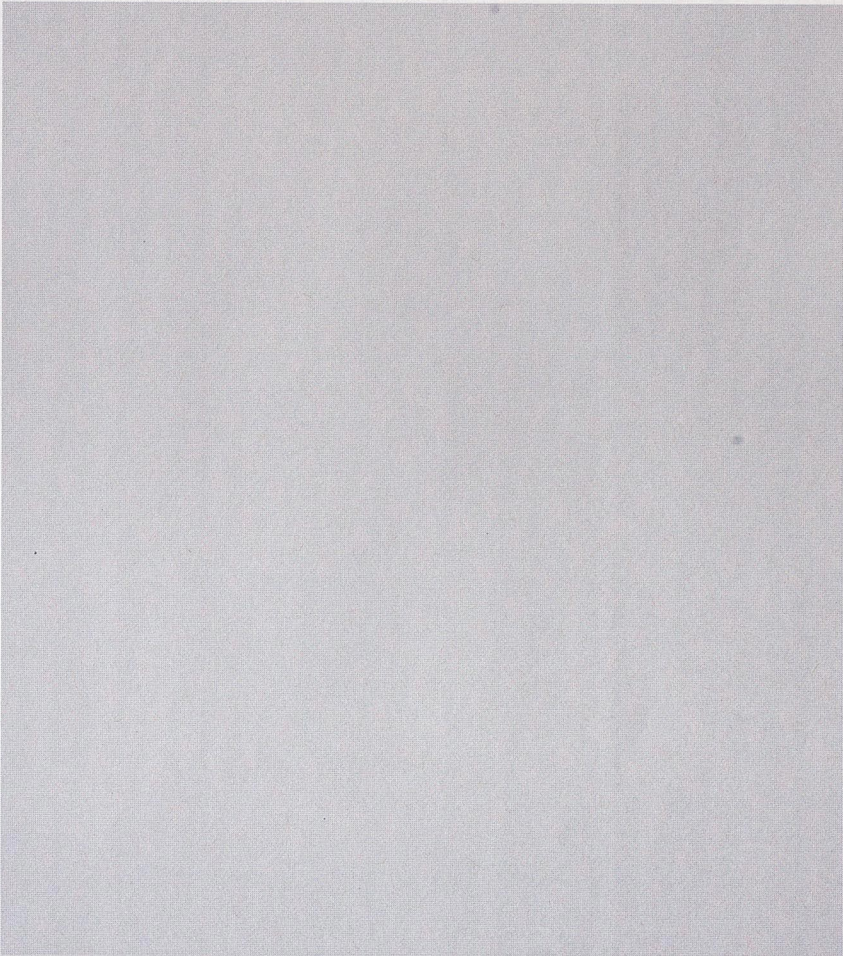
- Promise help

We understand the British desire to manage the issue in their own way in the UK. We are prepared to help in any way, both in our statements here in Canada and in our support in London. It is our impression that working relations are excellent at present.

CURRICULUM VITAE

The Lord Moran, K.C.M.G.
(Richard John McMoran)

s.19(1)



s.13(1)

s.15(1)

GIBSON/KIRBY

F.P.R.O. B.R.F.P.

Michael Kirby

JUN 16 1981

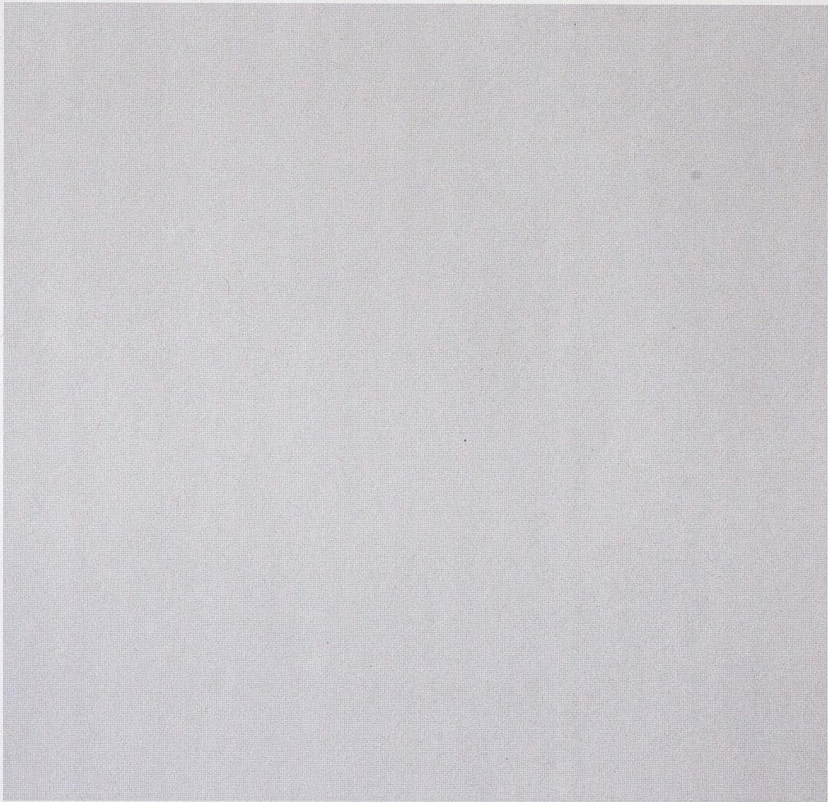
F3-11(1)

S E C R E T

June 16, 1981

**Notes on a Meeting between the Prime
Minister and the British High Commissioner
Room 311-S, Centre Block, 15:30 hours,
16 June 1981**

Lord Moran presented his letter of introduction
and he and the Prime Minister exchanged pleasantries.



and/

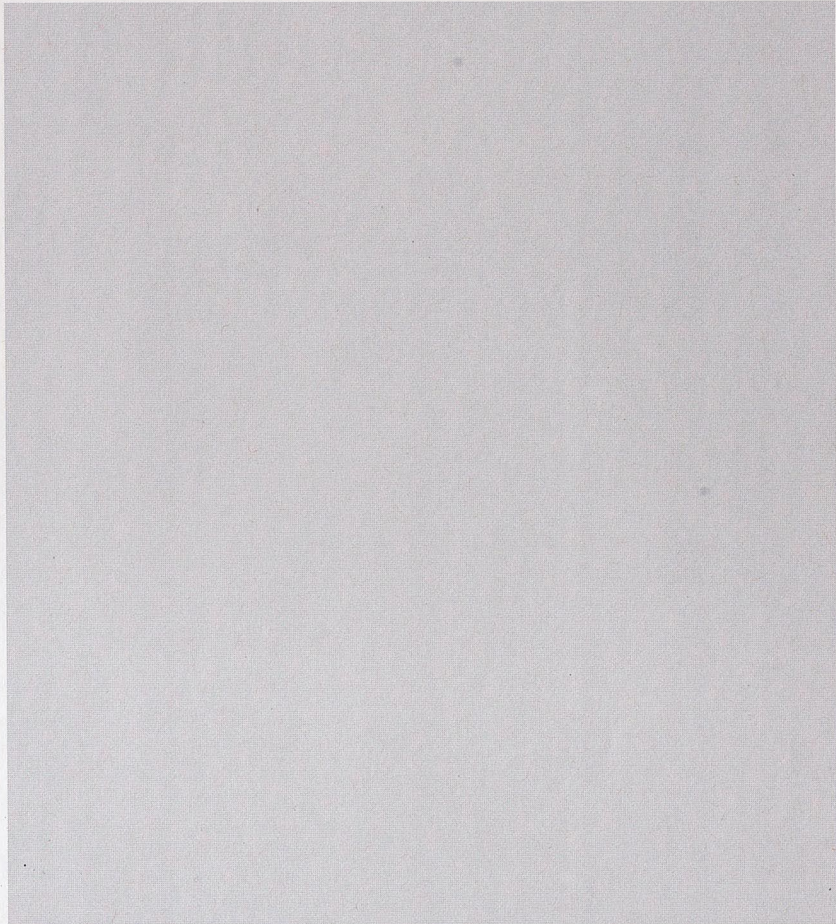
... 2

s.13(1)

s.15(1)

- 2 -

S E C R E T



At this point the conversation moved to
other subjects and was concluded shortly thereafter.

George Anderson