



SAW
File.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

RF

21 December, 1981

Canadian Constitution: Quebec

I enclose a letter which the Prime Minister has just received from the Prime Minister of Quebec requesting that HMG should take no action on the federal Resolution until Quebec has consented to it or until the opinion of the Canadian courts on the question of Quebec's right of veto is known.

I should be grateful if you could let me have advice on the form and content of a reply. It seems desirable that a reply should be despatched before the Christmas holidays if possible. I should therefore be grateful if a draft could reach me by close of play on 23 December.

You will note from the penultimate paragraph of Monsieur Levesque's letter that he intends to release it for publication in a few days.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to David Heyhoe (Lord President's Office), Michael Collon (Lord Chancellor's Office) and David Wright (Sir Robert Armstrong's Office).

CSA

R. M. J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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