

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

CONFIDENTIAL



Prime Minister.

HOME OFFICE

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

*Both the Foreign and Defence
Secretaries advise you not*

5 April 1984

*DEAR JOHN, to refer to the forgery in
Panorama. A.S.C. 1/4.*

ms

FORGED RECORDING OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT REAGAN

In your letter of 30 March, you invited advice on whether the Prime Minister should be ready, if necessary, to refer to this unpleasant hoax in her forthcoming Panorama interview.

The Home Secretary has no advice to offer in relation to his ministerial responsibilities. He feels, however, that to choose this particular example of such hoaxes would draw undesirable attention to the actual content of it (which is already in the hands of the press). Though it is a blatant forgery, some would insist on believing otherwise. He feels that it would be preferable not to refer to this matter.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Len Appleyard (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office) and the Director General of the Security Service.

*Yours sincerely,
H H Taylor*

H H TAYLOR

A J Coles, Esq

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Security: forged recording of telephoned
conversation between PM + Reagan
5/83

6 APR 1984

