

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 February 1982

*MS*

*Prime Minister*

*A.J.C. 6. 2*

*Dear John,*

Poland

In the week since the Prime Minister's meeting with Mr Haig we have had evidence of the impression which that conversation and the subsequent message to President Reagan made upon the American policy towards Poland. American officials have spoken of the timing of the Prime Minister's invitation to Mr Haig appreciatively and of the force of her arguments. That these made a considerable impression on the US Secretary of State personally is clear from Washington telno 332, of which I enclose a copy.

As you know, the United States has not so far proceeded to a second package of unilateral measures against the Soviet Union. We hope that this mood of greater patience in Washington will have been reinforced by the outcome of the meeting of the North Atlantic Council on 3 February, and by the measures which are being announced in London today.

American officials however continue to emphasise to us that, in arguing for a deliberate approach to the Polish crisis and for understanding of the position of the Europeans, Mr Haig and the State Department have few if any allies in the internal debate in Washington. We are taking what action we can to ensure that the points deployed by the Prime Minister are also put across to others in key positions, both by our own and by other European Embassies.

*Yours ever,*

(F N Richards)  
Private Secretary

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