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NBPM 8/11

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 January, 1985

*Dear Charles,*

*AT*  
*We agreed that there was no pressing need & some disadvantage in the Prime Minister seeing Mr Clausen this time*

Visit of the President of the World Bank: 16-17 January 1985

Mr Clausen is planning to come to London on 16-17 January to lobby Ministers in favour of a UK contribution to the Bank's proposed Fund for Africa, about which the Presidents of Togo and Zambia recently wrote to the Prime Minister. Mr Clausen has said that he wishes particularly to see the Foreign Secretary but has enquired whether the Prime Minister would be free to see him.

In view of the pressures on our aid funds, we could only make a UK cash contribution to any Fund for Africa at the expense of our own bilateral aid, and particularly that to African countries. We have therefore told the Bank that it is unlikely we shall be able to contribute directly to any Fund. Nevertheless, we are discussing with them whether we can associate some of our existing bilateral aid to Africa with their programme.

Sir Geoffrey Howe has agreed to see Mr Clausen. He does not think it necessary, however, that the Prime Minister should try to find time to do so as well. But we thought you should be aware of Mr Clausen's request to call on the Prime Minister.

*Yr ever,*  
*Peter Ricketts*

(P F Ricketts)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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