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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
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20/9.*

C Powell Esq
Private Secretary to
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

26 September 1985

Dear Charles,

~~POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA~~

Your letter of 24 September to Colin Budd asked for the position on the export guidelines to be set out.

I confirm that our destination guidelines apply to the export only of North Sea crude oil. In principle the policy applies also to indirect export but Ministers here have informed Parliament (9 April 1981 and 16 February 1983) that they cannot monitor indirect trade.

The interpretation of the document published following the Ten's discussion in Luxembourg on 10 September is for the FCO. We would not dissent from the view set out in Colin Budd's letter of 24 September that it can be assumed to cover only crude oil. Certainly the Dutch in their recent parliamentary debate appear to have interpreted it that way.

Yours ever,

G S DART
Private Secretary

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