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FILE

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cc PC
J.P.

10 DOWNING STREET

10 May, 1984

From the Private Secretary

Dear Peter,

LONDON SUMMIT: POSSIBLE BRITISH INITIATIVE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The Prime Minister has seen the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's minute of 8 May.

Mrs. Thatcher's preliminary reaction is that, while she would not wish the Summit to establish a new group, there might be merit in consigning to the existing Versailles Group the functions listed in paragraph 6 of Sir Geoffrey Howe's minute. The Prime Minister is further inclined to think that the arguments in paragraph 8 of that minute constitute a good case for such an initiative.

The Prime Minister would however welcome advice from the other recipients of the minute. There is a problem of timing. The Summit opens on 8 June. If we are to take an initiative on the lines proposed it will be necessary to discuss it well in advance with the other Governments concerned. The Prime Minister is holding a meeting on 16 May to take decisions on various British initiatives for the Summit and would hope to consider this matter then. Should any of her colleagues see difficulty in the proposed initiative the Prime Minister would therefore be grateful for their views by mid-day on 15 May.

I am copying this letter to John Ballard (Department of the Environment), David Peretz (HM Treasury), Michael Reidy (Department of Energy), Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry), David Normington (Department of Employment), John Graham (Scottish Office), Dinah Nichols (Department of Transport), Ivor Llewelyn (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), Joan Dunn (Mr. Waldegrave's Office, Department of the Environment) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever
J.P.

P. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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ce. P.C.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 May, 1984

Dear John,

A.J.C. ¹⁰/₅

f.a.

London Summit: Possible British Initiative on the
Environment

The Foreign Secretary has minuted this evening to the Prime Minister on the above subject. This is just to confirm that the minute takes account of the discussion between the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary on the flight back from Paris on 4 May.

Yr ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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