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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 February 1985

Council of Europe: Ministerial Conference on
Human Rights

Thank you for your letter of 5 February
about the forthcoming Council of Europe
Ministerial Conference on Human Rights.

The Prime Minister has noted this.

I am copying this letter to Richard
Hatfield (Cabinet Office) and Murdo Maclean
(Government Whips' Office).

Charles Powell

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CST

CCPC
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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 February 1985

Prime Minister
CDD
6/2

Dear Charles,

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Council of Europe: Ministerial Conference on Human Rights

[must be
Renton, Renton]
FCO
confirmed
12/2

The Foreign Secretary has agreed that Mr Timothy Raison, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, should lead the UK delegation to the European Ministerial Conference on Human Rights to be held in Vienna on 19 and 20 March.

After some initial scepticism about this Conference the UK decided in May 1984 to agree to its being held, after an initially thin agenda had been much improved and it had become clear that the great majority wanted to see the Conference go ahead. The Conference will arouse interest in the media and will be closely watched by those interested in Human Rights. The UK delegation intend to table various papers at the Conference on one of its themes: "The Challenge to Human Rights Posed by the Development of Science and Technology". These will cover the protection of human beings in the context of the development of biology, medicine and chemistry. Among these documents will be the Warnock and Peel Reports.

Mr Renton will be accompanied by his Private Secretary and by a small UK delegation (one, or at most two, officials from Whitehall, plus Mr Christopher Lush, the UK Permanent Representative at the Council of Europe).

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office) and Murdo Maclean (Government Whips' Office).

Yours ever,
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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25 FEB 1985

