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31 May 1985

Thank you for your letter of 28 May about the forthcoming visit to London by Senator Howard Baker. The Prime Minister regrets that her overcrowded schedule will prevent her from being able to see Senator Baker during his visit.

Timothy Flesher

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Prime Minister

Agree not to see Senator Baker? MET 29/5



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 May, 1985

Paggett

Dear Charles,

Visit to London by Senator Baker

Senator Howard Baker, the former Republican Majority Leader, will visit London in late July. He has asked (through the US Embassy) if arrangements could be made for him to call on 24 July on the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and the Foreign Secretary. Senator Baker said that he would appreciate an opportunity to renew his acquaintance with the Prime Minister and benefit from her assessment of world issues affecting Anglo-American relations.

Since retiring from the Senate, Senator Baker has returned to private law practice in Washington. He is widely expected to be a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1988, although few would give him more than an outside chance at this stage. Sir Oliver Wright describes him as a very worthwhile interlocutor on the American political situation. As the Prime Minister will know, Senator Baker is also a most agreeable person.

The Foreign Secretary plans to have a brief meeting with Senator Baker. He would not want to press the Prime Minister to see the Senator as well; but thought that you should have the opportunity to consult her about Senator Baker's request.

I am copying this letter to John Mogg at the Department of Trade and Industry to convey Mr Baker's request for a meeting with Mr Tebbit, to discuss trade and technology issues. I should be grateful if he would let me know Mr Tebbit's response.

*Yours ever
Peter Ricketts*

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Handwritten scribble in blue ink.

28 MAY 1985

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THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503