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SPW



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 November 1985

Sir Robert Armstrong

The Prime Minister has noted your minute of 5 November about further follow-up meetings of officials, in the Economic Summit framework, on drugs, terrorism and the problems of sub-Saharan Africa.

The Prime Minister would I am sure be content for these groups to meet again before the Tokyo Economic Summit.

(C. D. POWELL)
6 November 1985

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PRIME MINISTER

Yes Mr

Prime Minister
Agree with Economic Summit
Expert Groups on drugs,
terrorism & Africa can
meet again between now and

The Bonn Economic Summit commissioned further work on three "non-economic" subjects: drugs, terrorism, and the problems of sub-Saharan Africa.

UE Tokyo Summit?
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2. Reports by officials of the Summit countries were considered in New York on 25 September by Foreign Ministers, who agreed that the reports should be forwarded to Heads of Government.

3. The Germans - still in the chair, until the end of the year - have proposed further follow-up meetings of officials on all three subjects. There is no mandate from Heads of Government for continuing work of this kind. This proposal will no doubt be considered at the meeting of Personal Representatives to be held on 21 and 22 November.

4. In fact all three subjects are of continuing importance and difficulty, and I think that it would be right for the groups of "expert" officials from the seven countries to meet again between now and the Tokyo Summit in order that they can bring up to date and supplement as necessary the reports they submitted to Foreign Ministers in September, and report in time for the Tokyo Summit.

5. If you agree, therefore, I propose to agree that the groups of "expert" officials on each of these subjects should be authorised to meet again between now and the Tokyo Summit, for the purposes I have outlined.

6. The French are likely to insist that, if this work is to continue and further reports are to be sought, those reports should be brought together as part of the preparations by Personal Representatives for the Summit, and thus integrated in



the preparatory work. On that basis the expert groups might be invited to submit their reports through Personal Representatives, to reach them in time for their last meeting before the Tokyo Summit.

7. I should be glad to know whether you are content that matters should proceed accordingly.

REA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

5 November 1985