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*From the Principal Private Secretary*

7 July 1988

*Dear Peter,*

TORONTO SUMMIT: AFRICAN DEBT

Reading paragraph 7 of FCO telegram number 225 to Abidjan of 6 July, which refers to the phrase in the Toronto Declaration "within a framework of comparability", I am reminded that I have not recorded a little exchange in the Sherpas' drafting group when this passage was discussed. I argued strongly for the inclusion of some reference to burden-sharing. The Americans, and I recall others, objected. I accepted the text as it eventually appeared in the Declaration, on the basis of a firm assurance from Trichet that the words "within a framework of comparability" included the concept of burden-sharing. I said that I dropped my point in view of the assurance of the Chairman of the Paris Club that the drafting already, effectively, took care of it.

I am copying this letter to Tom Richardson (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

*Yours sincerely*  
*Nigel Wicks*

N. L. Wicks

P. Mountfield, Esq.,  
H.M. Treasury.

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