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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
ELIZABETH HOUSE YORK ROAD LONDON SE1 7PH
TELEPHONE 01-934 9000

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw PC CH MC
Lord President of the Council
68 Whitehall
LONDON SW1

17 September 1986

NBPN.

Dear Willie,

STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY CHARGE

I shall have to leave the E(LF) meeting early as I have an outside speaking engagement which I fear I cannot break. I hope it is acceptable therefore, for me to bring George Walden with me to carry on the discussion when I leave.

I have severe misgivings about Malcolm Rifkind's proposals as they would apply in England and tend to agree with the letter circulated by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster yesterday that students should be exempted from the community charge. But this is a complex matter and I should like to suggest that I should submit a further paper to colleagues in about a fortnight's time.

I am copying the letter to other members of E(LF) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours ever
Herbert*

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