PRIME MINISTER

You have a final bilateral of the year with the Foreign Secretary tomorrow. He will be visiting the Gulf in early January. Subjects which he is likely to raise are:

<u>Malaysia</u>. You asked last time about the position over the rotation of the Agong (King) and whether the present incumbent would be safely out of the way by the time The Queen goes there in October. The Foreign Secretary will bring you up to date on developments.

Middle East. He will want to tell you about his Gulf visit which includes Kuwait. He will also want to mention developments over the PLO. You may like to advise him that, while you do not rule out a meeting between him and Arafat, it would be better not to rush into one. The people we have to work on now are the Americans and the Israelis.

Your Visit to Africa. There are separate papers in the box. He will continue to press you to include Mozambique in your visit. There are also strong arguments against.

Human Rights Conference. For some reason, we have not been getting the telegrams on this. The Americans are apparently locked in discussion with the Russians and there seems some likelihood that they will accept the Russians' assurances about their intentions on human rights, thus unblocking the way to agreement on the human rights conference in Moscow. You will want to be absolutely satisfied that the assurances are adequate. Moreover, we must surely stick to the position that, even with the assurances, the West would only actually attend such a conference if the Soviet Union carried out its promises between now and the date of the conference. There is a lot of pressure on this subject from Jewish and from human rights campaigners and you are seen as the central figure.

C D C

20 December 1988

SECRET