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MR POWELL

c Mr Stark

OD and Cabinet: South Africa

It is obviously most desirable that the conclusions which Ministers reach in OD today and Cabinet tomorrow about South Africa should not become publicly known before the European Council. For one thing, this would increase the efforts of journalists to adduce differences between the views of British Ministers and whatever decisions are taken at the European Council.

2. The Prime Minister may wish to repeat today and tomorrow her injunction at yesterday's meeting of Ministers that the press should not be briefed.

C L G Mallaby

24 June 1986

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