



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 March 1986

*Dear Charles,*

Prime Minister's Visit to Vancouver for Expo '86:  
Accommodation

As a result of a recent reconnaissance visit to Vancouver by the Head of Overseas Conference and Visits Section in Protocol Department, it is recommended that the Prime Minister should stay in the Hotel Vancouver during her visit to Canada for EXPO '86. The Consul General in Vancouver supports this recommendation. Supt Waller has consulted his RMP colleagues, who see no problems from the security point of view.

Two hotels are being used to accommodate VIPs visiting Vancouver for EXPO'86. At present both are holding rooms for the Prime Minister. The Hotel Vancouver is a Canadian National Railways (CN) hotel and is a well established, elegant hotel of high reputation. The service is excellent, especially on the VIP floor, where the staff are on permanent duty 18 hours a day. The main VIP suite will be ideally suited for the Prime Minister and Mr Thatcher. Room service would cater for all meals served in the suite, where there is a pantry. There is also an adjoining bedroom connected to the pantry which could be used to accommodate a detective. The hotel would make available all nearby rooms for the Prime Minister's party, one of which could be used as a No 10 Office. The hotel is well used to catering for VIPs, and the Prime Minister would be the only one in the Vancouver Hotel at the time of her visit in July.

The only other possibility is the Pan Pacific Hotel, a newly built ultra-modern hotel owned by a Japanese company. It has only been open approximately two months and the VIP suits are still in the process of being furnished. The two floors where the VIP suits are situated (22nd and 23rd) are not yet fully in operation. By July the VIP floors and suites will only have been opened for a very short time, and there may well be teething troubles in the first few months.

I should be grateful to know the Prime Minister's wishes.

*Yours ever,*  
*Colin Budd*

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Private Secretary

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