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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 April 1986

## EXPO '86 PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO VANCOUVER

I had a further call earlier this week from Princess Margaret's Private Secretary about her arrangements for visiting Expo '86. Princess Margaret has decided not to pursue her idea of travelling with the Prime Minister on Concorde. But she has now confirmed her earlier decision to attend the performance of the Royal Ballet on the evening of Saturday 12 July to which she would be happy to "welcome" the Prime Minister. We had earlier thought that Princess Margaret had agreed to drop this idea and go to the Ballet a day or two later.

This is rather awkward. There is little point in the Prime Minister and Princess Margaret duplicating attendance at engagements at Expo '86. It would be helpful to have the High Commissioner's early advice whether there is some other appropriate engagement for the Prime Minister to undertake that evening. I am bound to say - though without authority - that unless some worthwhile alternative engagement can be found, there is a risk that the Prime Minister might reconsider her intention to visit Vancouver for the British days. This would be a great pity.

CHARLES POWELL

A.C. Galsworthy, Esq., C.M.G., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

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From the Private Secretary

26 March 1986

Michael Alison has passed to me your letter of 21 March about the Prime Minister's visit to EXPO '86 in Vancouver, in which you suggest that she might visit the Pavilion of Promise.

The planning of the Prime Minister's programme for Vancouver is still at an early stage and I am passing your letter to those responsible for organising it who will be better able to judge whether it will be possible for the Prime Minister to undertake this.

CLOSED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

(C.D. Powell)

Charles Cordle, Esq.

OR PPS! (x Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SW1A 2AH 26 March 1986 Dear Charles, Invitation to Expo '86 Thank you for your letter of 24 March. The letter of invitation to the Prime Minister from the Premier of British Columbia is a circular and does not in fact require a reply. The news that the Prime Minister will visit the Exposition was of course made public some time ago. This is the second such circular invitation which has been sent to the Prime Minister. We are asking our Consul-General in Vancouver to try to stem the flow. Yours ever, Colin Budd (C R Budd) Private Secretary C D Powell Esq PS/10 Downing Street