



## 10 DOWNING STREET

13 May 1986

From the Private Secretary

Dear Colin,

## EXPO '86: VANCOUVER

Thank you for your letter of 12 May with proposals for the Prime Minister's programme in Vancouver.

While all in favour of keeping the Prime Minister busy, even I blanch a bit at a programme which has her carrying out 22 separate engagements, starting with a breakfast meeting at 0800 and finishing with a reception at 2300, the day after a supersonic flight.

We need to thin it down a bit and focus on the main purpose of the visit which is promotion of British trade not a visit to Expo for its own sake. On this basis it seems to me that we can do without visits to the EC Pavilion, the Canadian Pavilion and the British Columbian Pavilion and the tour of Expo by monorail. If it is argued that the Canadians will take these omissions amiss, the reply is to be that the Prime Minister had originally envisaged spending two days in Vancouver: but in the light of Mr Mulroney's inability to meet her, she has had to curtail her programme.

The Prime Minister should not be asked to carry out any engagements on the evening of her arrival. On the Saturday, the essential ingredients are:

Meeting with Premier of British Columbia: 30 minutes  
(N.B.: not a working breakfast)

Meeting with Canadian businessmen: 45 minutes

Tour of the pavilion (does it really have to be before the daily opening? That will surely make it rather antiseptic) 50 minutes

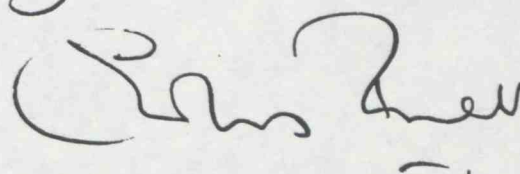
Meet young Britons 10 minutes

Present Sunbird Sailboat 10 minutes

Welcoming ceremony and display 45 minutes

Lunch	90 minutes
Three store visits, and BREL demonstration	130 minutes
Press conference	30 minutes
Ballet	
Reception	

I should be grateful if the Department and the Post could produce a revised programme marshalling these events as effectively as possible, with the first engagement at 0830. I will then obtain the Prime Minister's views on the programme as a whole, as well as on the difficult point of the attendance at the ballet.

Yours sincerely  


CHARLES POWELL

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