



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

1 July 1986

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO EXPO '86: VANCOUVER

Thank you for your letter of 27 June to Charles Powell here about the Prime Minister's visit to Vancouver.

I now write to confirm that the Cabinet Office will pay for the Prime Minister's reception, which is now estimated to cost £6,000. The Cabinet Office will also pay for ballet tickets for the Prime Minister and Mr. Thatcher and four of her party. An additional ticket, making seven in all, will be needed for a detective. The cost of his ticket will be debited to the Metropolitan Police in the normal way. It is important that the detective sits near the Prime Minister and I understand that he is already in touch with his contacts in Vancouver about this.

Could I add that it would speed any future authorisation for such expenditure if you could provide us with basic information when first seeking our agreement for authorisation such as:

- a. location of reception, with explanation if HMG accommodation is not used and a comparison of two or three commercial charges for accommodation;
- b. number of guests;
- c. purpose of reception (bearing in mind that a simple return of hospitality is not considered justification);
- d. breakdown of costs between accommodation and fare.

N L WICKS

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bcc Don Wood

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