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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

4 July 1986

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Visit to Canada, 11-13 July 1986

The Prime Minister is visiting Canada from 11-13 July.

The objectives of the visit are:

- (a) to attend the British Week of EXPO 86 in Vancouver: thereby to assist British exporters and to draw attention to British achievements in the field of transport and communications, the theme of the EXPO;
- (b) to have a bilateral in Montreal with Mr Mulroney, concentrating on South Africa but also covering bilateral trade issues and the Canadian contribution to the International Fund for Ireland.

// I enclose two sets of briefs: one for Vancouver and one for the Mulroney bilateral. These include programmes, personality notes and annexes giving background and defensive points.

HRH Princess Margaret will also be in Vancouver and will attend the Royal Ballet performance on 12 July. Lord Gray (Scottish Office) will be in Vancouver from 9 to 16 July, to visit EXPO and attend the Scottish Festival.

You may like to bear in mind that the next CHOGM will be in Vancouver in 1987.

/ I attach Ottawa telegram number 411, setting the scene
/ for the visit together with Ottawa telegrams numbers 398 and
/ 407 on the recent major Cabinet reshuffle. The Prime Minister
may also wish to note that UK exports to Canada in 1985 were
43% higher than in 1984 (16% non-oil), when the balance of
visible trade moved into our favour for the first time since
1972.

/We



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We understand that the Canadian press have picked up a remark by the Prime Minister on 19 June in the Commons, implying that Canada is not a major Western industrialised country (Hansard attached). In fact Canada ranks 7th in the world in GNP terms and manufacturing accounts for 18% of her GNP, only slightly less than the USA. / *

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

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* This point was also alluded to by the Canadian Foreign Minister - in sorrow more than anger - when he had dinner with the Foreign Secretary in London on 20 June.

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