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SECRET  
DEDIP  
FM FCO  
TO IMMEDIATE CANBERRA  
TELNO MISC 175  
OF 241717Z MAY 88

STRICTLY PERSONAL FOR THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FROM CHARLES POWELL,  
10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

I SHOULD WARN YOU THAT THE PRIME MINISTER IS SEEKING IDEAS FOR HER PROGRAMME BOTH FROM CAROL (WHO IS NOW LIKELY TO ACCOMPANY HER) AND FROM ALISTAIR MCALPINE. THE ONLY SPECIFIC SUGGESTION THAT THE LATTER HAS SO FAR COME FORWARD WITH IS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER SHOULD VISIT A WINERY NEAR PERTH. I WILL ENCOURAGE BOTH OF THEM TO PRODUCE THEIR SUGGESTIONS RAPIDLY SO THAT WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO DEAL WITH THEM AS APPROPRIATE. ALISTAIR IS OFFERING THE PRIME MINISTER HIS HOUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF PERTH TO STAY IN WHILE SHE IS THERE. SHE IS INCLINED TO ACCEPT UNLESS THERE ARE STRONG ARGUMENTS AGAINST EG SECURITY. ALISTAIR IS ALSO KEEN THAT SHE SHOULD STAY AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL IN SYDNEY (CHAIRMAN, ALISTAIR MCALPINE). THIS IS JUST TO BRING A LITTLE SUNSHINE INTO YOUR LIFE. PLEASE ADDRESS ANY REPLY DIRECT TO ME.

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