

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH THE PREMIER OF QUEBEC

You have agreed to see the Premier of Quebec briefly on Thursday. He will be accompanied by the Canadian High Commissioner. Andrew Bearpark will be present to take a note (I have to leave for Bonn, if you will excuse me).

Mr. Bourassa sounds good news. He went to Oxford and is a specialist in tax law. He won Quebec for the Liberals in 1985 (wresting it from the nationalists). Despite being a Liberal, he has been a strong supporter of the US/Canada Free Trade Agreement. He has also brought Quebec back into proper constitutional relations with the rest of Canada.

His programme in the UK is quite a light one, mostly involving meetings with people in the City and industry who are interested in investing in Quebec.

The main subjects likely to interest him - covered in the attached FCO brief - are:

- inward investment in Quebec
- the implications of 1992.

You will want to put the case for buying our Trafalgar Class submarines. You might also ask him about the political prospects in Canada after the elections.

C.D.P.

CHARLES POWELL
17 January 1989

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