



cc - Sir P Wright (Ro)
Sir T Heiser (DOE)
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From the Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service

Sir Robin Butler KCB CVO

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22 March 1989

Dear Geoffrey,

Many thanks for your letter of 9 March about the projected World Environment Conference.

I have made some inquiries about this, and find very little knowledge of it so far within Government. My own feeling is that, since it is a private rather than a Government initiative, it would probably not be right to advise the Prime Minister to raise it with Mr Gorbachev, lest the Russians thereby gained the impression that the British Government had stimulated the proposal. That is also the advice I have had from others more expert in the workings of the Soviet mind. But it is clearly a potentially exciting idea, and I shall be interested to hear how it progresses.

Best wishes,

Yours ever,

Robin

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