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From the Private Secretary

29 May 1989

See Stanley,

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER

The Prime Minister had a talk with Mr. Mulroney this morning, shortly before the opening of the NATO Summit. Mr. Stanley Hartt was also present.

NATO Summit

The Prime Minister described the United Kingdom's viewpoint on SNF and the need not to give ground. Mr. Mulroney gave every appearance of agreeing and being in ignorance of the Canadian position as advanced in NATO.

Commonwealth Secretary-General

Mr. Mulroney said that there was only one point which he particularly wanted to raise, and that was the question of the Commonwealth Secretary-General. Formally Canada had not shown its hand. But he was increasingly convinced that the best and least divisive course was to ask Ramphal to continue. The Prime Minister said that she had established that Ramphal was ready to do so. She agreed that this would avoid a damaging black/white division in the Commonwealth, and would allow Anyaoku more time to establish himself as the natural successor. Mr. Mulroney said that he would be seeing President Kaunda soon and would raise the matter with him. He would also talk to Rajiv Gandhi. The Prime Minister suggested that Mr. Mulroney should also contact Dr. Mahathir. Thereafter she and Mr. Mulroney should be in touch again.

South Africa

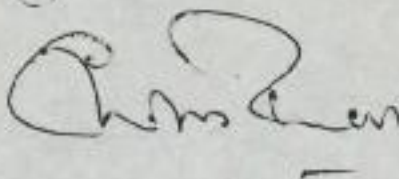
The Prime Minister said that it was important not to allow the issue of South Africa to dominate the forthcoming CHOGM. Mr. Mulroney agreed: he was talked out on the subject.

British High Commissioner

The Prime Minister said that Sir Alan Urwick would be leaving Ottawa in the summer to take up the office of Serjeant-at-Arms in the House of Commons. We would do our best to find a good successor. Mr. Mulroney spoke glowingly of Sir Alan's success as High Commissioner.

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I am copying this letter to Brian Hawtin (Ministry of Defence)
and to Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,


C.D. Powell

Stephen Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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