CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

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LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

1 August 1989

Dear Roger,

The Prime Minister has seen a copy of your Secretary of State's letter of 28 July to the Foreign Secretary about the Commission's proposal for a European Environmental Agency. She agrees that the Commission need to develop a sound data base to support Community environment policy. But her recollection is that, at the Economic Summit, we proposed that the OECD should take the lead in this, since it already collects a good deal of data, and the Commission could presumably draw on this. I think she would like to know rather more about how we would intend to avoid duplication between OECD and the Commission in this area before reaching a firm view.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of OD(E) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

C. D. POWELL

Roger Bright, Esq., Department of the Environment.