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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

19 May 1983

BRITISH OWNED PROPERTY IN GREECE

Thank you for your letter of 11 May.

The question of the possible loss of property by British citizens in Greece has not yet come to the Prime Minister's attention. We have had several hints from some of those affected that it may do so soon. It would therefore be helpful if you could continue to keep us closely informed.

I note that the matter has been raised with the Greeks at various levels. But I have as yet seen little to suggest that there is any real prospect of the British citizens concerned being able to retain their property. You say that we shall continue to press for appropriate action but suggest, at an earlier stage in your letter, that even if the Greek Government had the political will to introduce the necessary legislation there may be constitutional difficulties about doing so. I wonder whether you have in mind any particular solution which we should press upon the Greek Government.

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A. J. COLES

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