

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

RESTRICTED



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

2 July 1984

Dear John,

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JMS
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VISITS TO LIVERPOOL BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Chief Constable of Merseyside is responsible for any necessary protection arrangements in his police area. In view of the current political situation in relation to the Liverpool City Council, he takes the view that for the time being any visit of any member of the Government is likely to be the subject of demonstrations. Although he would not expect there to be any serious risk to a Minister's safety, he is likely to insist in virtually every case that a degree of police protection would be appropriate. It would therefore be helpful to the Chief Constable if Private Secretaries to Ministers - not only Ministers of the Department of the Environment, but all other Departments in England and Wales - would ensure that the Merseyside Police are informed in reasonable time before any official or political visit to Merseyside, so that the police can consider what arrangements would be appropriate. The Home Secretary hopes that his colleagues will feel able to co-operate with whatever arrangements the Chief Constable feels it appropriate to make. In the case of those few Ministers who normally receive protection from police officers, the necessary arrangements will be made by their protection officers. In all other cases the point of contact for Private Secretaries wishing to notify a forthcoming visit should be the Chief Constable's Staff Officer: Chief Inspector David Wright, Merseyside Police, P.O. Box 59, Liverpool L69 1JD - Telephone No 051 709 6010 Ext 2011.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to Ministers in charge of Departments in England and Wales, and would be grateful if they would arrange for it to be circulated to the Private Offices of other Ministers within their Departments.

Yours ever,
H H Taylor

H H TAYLOR

J F Ballard, Esq.