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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

The Duties and Responsibilities of Civil Servants

The Prime Minister discussed with you this morning the question which she had raised about her position in relation to the proposed document submitted under your minute of 12 February, if it was decided that such a document should be issued. You suggested, and the Prime Minister agreed, that the Prime Minister would need to say that you had consulted her about the document and she agreed both with the decision to issue it and its contents. But it would be made clear that you had taken the initiative as Head of the Home Civil Service.

You said that you would be submitting a further version of the document to the Prime Minister after her return from the United States.

I am copying this minute to Miss Lewis-Jones (Lord President's Office), Mrs. Lomax (HM Treasury), Mr. Taylor (Home Office), Mr. Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office), Mr. Thomas (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office), Mr. Mottram (Ministry of Defence) and Mr. Steel (Attorney General's Office).

15 February 1985

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