Box.



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 January 1986

EX-KING CONSTANTINE'S SON

Thank you for your letter of 13 January about the timing of the Prime Minister's message to Mr. Papandreou about Prince Paul's place at Sandhurst.

The Prime Minister accepts the Foreign Secretary's advice that the Ambassador in Athens should be instructed to deliver the message at the earliest opportunity. I enclose a copy with a current date.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence) and to Sir Philip Moore at Buckingham Palace.

(C.D. Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL

No

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PROM 19 PIECE/ITEM 2211 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details:	
Letter Rom PM to Papandreon (T.98/86) dated 15 January 1986	
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Enter the department and series, eg. HO 405, J 82.

Enter the piece and item references, . eg. 28, 1079, 84/1, 107/3

Enter extract details if it is an extract rather than a whole piece. This should be an indication of what the extract is, eg. Folio 28, Indictment 840079, E107, Letter dated 22/11/1995. Do not enter details of why the extract is sensitive.

If closed under the FOI Act, enter the FOI exemption numbers applying to the closure, eg. 27(1), 40(2).



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SWIA 2AH Right

Dear Charles

Ex-King Constantine's Son

13 January 1986 Agree 10

Vis no send the now?

Wellange now?

abrown In your letter of 3 January you asked for advice CDP on the timing of the Prime Minister's message to Papandreou about Prince Paul's place at Sandhurst.

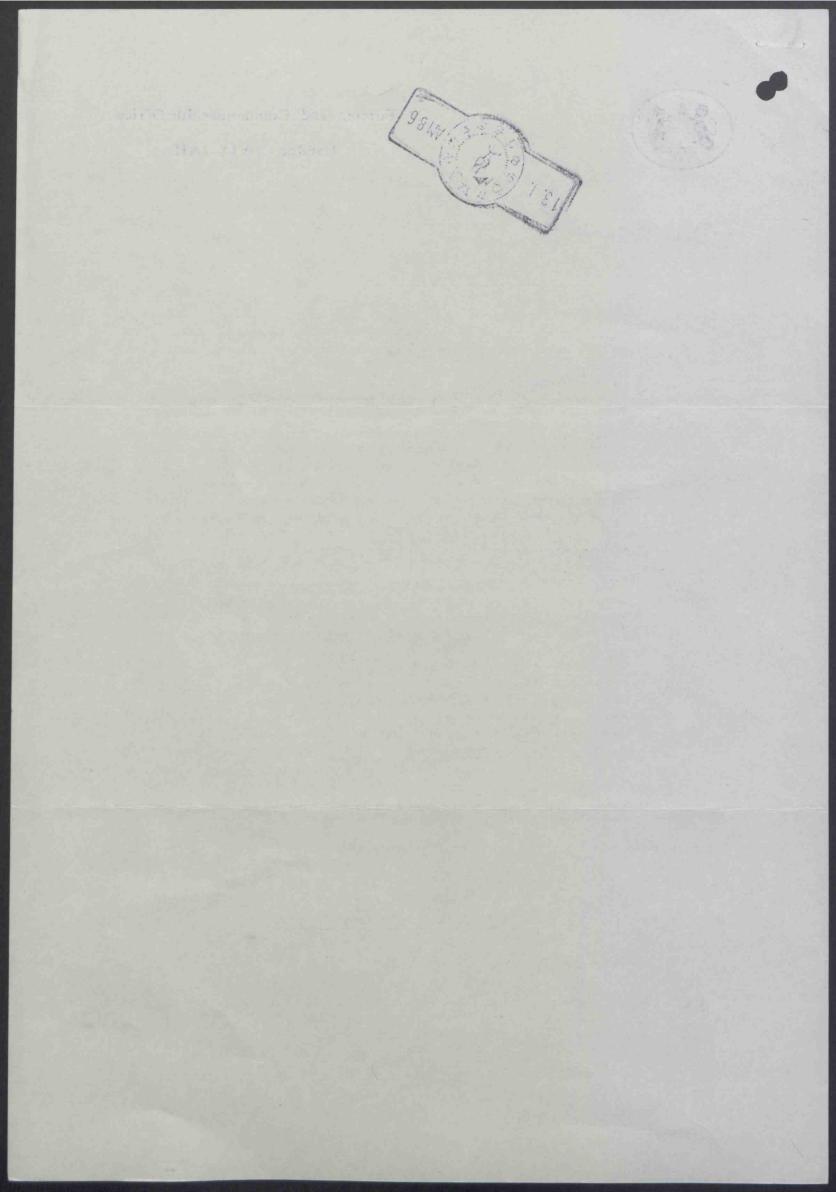
As Prince Paul is not to start at Sandhurst until September there may be an argument for giving the Greeks as little time as possible to make a fuss. But Sir Geoffrey Howe is concerned about the very real risk of a leak. This would nullify the effect of any message. Additionally, if Papandreou is to react badly he will do so whenever the news is passed. Delaying until nearer the time and presenting him with an obvious fait accompli is likely only to add to the Greek irritation. By telling him now we stand a better chance of him accepting the view that this was indeed a decision taken purely on personal and family grounds. The Foreign Secretary therefore believes that the Ambassador in Athens should be instructed to deliver the message (attached for ease of reference) at the earliest opportunity.

The original signed message from the Prime Minister, now with the Ambassador in Athens, is dated 16 December. If the Prime Minister is content to proceed without further delay, it would be better to hand over an original with a more recent date. I should be grateful if you could provide us with this.

Yours ever, Colin Budd

(C R Budd) Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq No.10 Downing St.





10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 January 1986

THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4)
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

advice on the timing of a message, bearing in mind that King Constantine's son will not start at Sandhurst until September. We here see cogency in the argument that the less time given to the Greek Government to make a fuss the better.

Charles Powell

Len Appleyard, Esq., CMG., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 2211 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
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The National Archives

Date and sign
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Use black or blue pen to complete form.

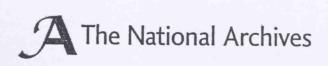
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PIECE/ITEM 2211 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: Letter from Powell to Budd dated 16 December 1985	
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