

PRIME MINISTER

CSCE MEETING IN VIENNA: MOSCOW HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

I attach the following papers which you will want to look at today:

- President Reagan's reply to your message of 21 December. This is not satisfactory because it does not make explicit the fact that acceptance of a Moscow conference must be conditional upon the Soviet Union implementing its undertakings on human rights. We shall need to send a very rapid reply, since the Americans envisage announcing their acceptance on Tuesday, 3 January;
- my note recording my two conversations with General Powell yesterday;
- the record of the Foreign Secretary's talk with Secretary Shultz;
- a note from Washington on the point reached in the discussions on human rights with the Russians;
- your earlier message to President Reagan;
- the FCO letter of 21 December summarising the position reached in Vienna.

As you will see, I am working with the Foreign Office on a reply from you to President Reagan which would propose some specific wording on conditionality which we and the Americans would both use. There are not many people about and the Foreign Secretary has gone off to the Gulf. But I hope to let you have a text later this afternoon.

C.D.R.

CHARLES POWELL
2 January 1989

P.S. This is really so that you have all background papers to hand.