

PRIME MINISTER

LORD ROTHSCHILD

I telephoned Mr. Heath, who was in Salisbury, this afternoon, to read the statement to him. He paused for a long time after I had read the statement. He then asked to be reminded of your words used in the Hollis statement. I read these over to him. He asked me then to pass on his thanks to you for letting him know.

I also spoke later in the afternoon to Mr. Robert Rhodes-James. Unfortunately I could not get through immediately and when I did The Times had already been on to him. But I read out the statement to him. He asked me to tell you that he was most grateful for letting him know and to pass on his warm thanks. I emphasised, to some effect I think, the words 'no' and 'ever' in the last paragraph.

N.C.W.

N L WICKS

5 December 1986

SLHADF