



10 DOWNING STREET

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From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

The Prime Minister had a short word with the Foreign Secretary this evening about the proposed Foreign Affairs Unit.

The Foreign Secretary said, as predicted in your note of 8 September (AO9378), that he was strongly against the proposition and made most of the points which you forecast. The Foreign Secretary said that he would like to discuss it further at a more convenient time. The Prime Minister said that she would be willing to discuss the shape of the Unit further but was adamant that she needed one: the Foreign Secretary accepted that it was ultimately a decision for her to take but reiterated his opposition.

E. E. R. BUTLER

8 September 1982

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