



10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

4 July 1988

UK AUSTRALIA DRUG TRAFFICKING TREATY

Thank you for your letter of 4 July.
I am sure the Prime Minister will be ready
to sign the Treaty during her visit to
Australia, and suggest that we provide
for this in the programme.

Charles Powell

Bob Peirce, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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ccpk

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

4 July 1988

Dear Charles

UK/Australia Drug Trafficking Treaty

We are now close to reaching agreement with the Australians on the text of a Treaty for the confiscation of drug traffickers' assets. It could be finalised in time for the Prime Minister's visit to Australia on 1-5 August.

It was originally planned that the Treaty be signed in October during the visit of the Australian Attorney-General. We had agreed that the Foreign Secretary and the Home Secretary should sign jointly on behalf of the UK.

The Prime Minister may, however, wish to sign the Treaty during her visit. This would be a timely follow up to the undertakings made at the Toronto Summit on international cooperation in the tracing, freezing and confiscation of drug traffickers' assets. The (very brief) ceremony is expected to be the same as when Mrs Thatcher signed a similar Treaty with Prime Minister Mulroney last month.

Our High Commissioner to Australia will be calling on the Prime Minister on 5 July to discuss her visit. If the Prime Minister agrees this proposal could be included on the agenda.

Yours are

(R N Peirce)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street