



10 DOWNING STREET

9 July 1981

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear David

I am sorry not to have replied before to your letter of 3 June suggesting a classified defence briefing.

I think that this is a very good idea and I have asked John Nott to see what could best be arranged. I think that the briefing, like the one we had in 1976, should be given by a team from NATO and should be on Privy Counsellor terms.

I am afraid that the briefing cannot be fitted in before the Summer Recess but I will be in touch with you shortly to discuss possible dates in the autumn.

I propose to invite Michael Foot to attend the briefing and I am writing to him accordingly.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Right Honourable David Steel, M.P.