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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

23 April, 1982

OPERATION PARAQUET

Thank you for your letter of 23 April.

The Prime Minister agrees that a telegram should be sent to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary informing him, for his strictly personal information, that there has been bad weather causing some delay, but that reconnaissance is proceeding.

A. J. COLES

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P. R. H. Wright, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office



TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 April, 1982.

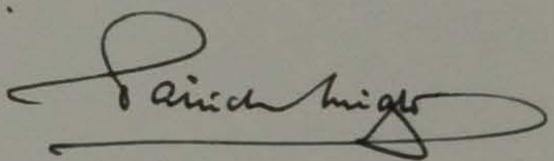
A.J. Coles, Esq.,
10 Downing St.

Dear Sir,

OPERATION PARAQUET

As I told you on the telephone this morning, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary asked before his departure for Washington yesterday if I would ensure that he was kept informed of any developments over Operation Paraquet.

I understand that the Prime Minister has instructed that information on this operation should be kept very close indeed, but I would be most grateful if you were able to authorise the despatch of a telegram on the lines of the enclosed draft. In the circumstances, I am showing this letter and its enclosure to the Permanent Under-Secretary, but to no one else here.

Yours faithfully,


(P.R.H. Wright)

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL

National Archives UK rm

Department
Drafted by P.R.H. Wright
(Block Capitals)
Tel. Extn. 233 5617

OUTWARD
TELEGRAM

Security Classification	
TOP SECRET	
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PREAMBLE

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 (Security Class.) TOP SECRET (Caveat/ Privacy marking)
 (Codeword) (Deskby) Z

TO FLASH WASHINGTON (precedence) (post) Tel. No. of

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Distribution:-

[TEXT]

strictly
Following/personal for Private Secretary to Secretary of State from Wright: Paraquet.

The Prime Minister has agreed that the Secretary of State should be told, for his strictly personal information, that ~~there have been some initial problems, mainly caused by bad weather, over the first reconnaissance, and that this will have led to some delay. Further parties have now been landed, but it is unlikely that the operation itself will now take place before 25 or 26 April.~~

There has been bad weather causing some delay but reconnaissance is proceeding.

Copies to:-