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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17 July 1981

Dear Michael,

Prime Minister's meeting With Sr Spadolini

I understand that Sr Spadolini is anxious to see the Prime Minister during the Ottawa Summit.

/ I attach a brief. Like earlier supplementary briefs, this has not been seen by a Minister here, but a copy will be in the Lord Privy Seal's weekend box.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to David Wright in the Cabinet Office.

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

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their house in order. He sees it in interest of all
Italians that he should have a long tenure.

TNF

Failure to go ahead on the TNF double decision could
particularly embarrass his government. He has good
personal relations with the Americans and is likely to try
to put this point across and perhaps also to ask us to do so.

"MITTERRAND EFFECT"

Any references to possible spill-over effect of French
Socialist victory would be likely to embarrass Spadolini
who would not welcome an internal debate in Italy on this
subject.

OTTAWA SUMMIT

See Rome telegram 258 of 3 July (attached) for
Italian position on the main issues.

MIDDLE EAST

← Colombo has told Lord Carrington in confidence that Spadolini
has taken a pro-Zionist line in Cabinet.

UK DEVELOPMENTS

Spadolini has been consistently friendly towards Britain.
He is likely to be interested and concerned by

- (a) position of the Labour Party on Europe
- (b) developments in Northern Ireland
- (c) social disturbances in Britain.

He is an intellectual who has specialised in the history of
church/State relationships and has not got a closed mind on
these issues.

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