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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 March 1984

Forged Recording of a Telephone Conversation between  
the Prime Minister and President Reagan

Would you please refer to my letter of 22 July, 1983.

BT/

The Prime Minister is giving an interview to Panorama on Monday, 9 April. She said today that she may wish to refer to the forged recording which was the subject of my earlier letter as an illustration of the scurrilous information with which Ministers sometimes have to cope nowadays. But before she takes a final decision on this, I shall be grateful to know whether you pursued further with the SIS the question of the origin of this recording. It would be helpful to have any new information you may have about the source - and also any advice you may wish to offer on the appropriateness of the Prime Minister referring to the forgery.

I am copying this letter to Hugh Taylor, Sir Robert Armstrong and the Director-General of the Security Services.

A. J. COLES

Len Appleyard Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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