



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 March 1982

Dear John.

UN Second Special Session on Disarmament

Thank you for your letter of 16 March about the timing of the Prime Minister's speech at the Special Session.

We have consulted UKMis New York who say it would be possible for the Prime Minister to leave London after Questions on 15 June and speak in New York on Wednesday 16 June. She could speak first that afternoon and would be followed by speakers from Nepal, Nicaragua, Mali and Niger. Alternatively, it would be possible for the Prime Minister to address the Assembly on the afternoon of Friday 18 June; she would again speak first, followed by Kenya, Qatar and Libya.

Of the two options, Sir A Parsons recommends the first, as does our Disarmament Delegation in Geneva which will shortly move to New York in preparation for the Special Session. We agree with this advice. There would clearly be disadvantages in the Prime Minister speaking near the end of the week when her audience and the press coverage will be smaller.

We note your remarks about the procedure and timetable for the preparation of the Prime Minister's speech and will set work in hand with these in mind.

Yours ever,

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

Francis Richards

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