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W. G. G. G. G.

10/12/9. (2)

E.R.



cc.



Mr Partridge
Mr Hilary
HMCIC



(with copies
of earlier papers)

Mr Harrington

SPECIAL BRANCH GUIDELINES

The Home Secretary has seen your minute of 3 December regarding Special Branch guidelines. In relation to the guidelines themselves, the Home Secretary's only query concerns the use of the words "extremists" in paragraph 7. He would prefer to see a reference to those concerned with subversive activity or something similar, and I would be grateful for some further advice on this point.

The Home Secretary agrees that we shall certainly have to publish the guidelines at some stage. He is anxious to retain all options for the time being. He did wonder, however, whether now was the right time to issue the guidelines to Chief Officers, since the Select Committee might form the impression that we were seeking to keep the guidelines from them if we did not publish them straightaway, or were seeking to undermine their enquiry if we did. I would be grateful for your advice on this point too.

Private Office
6.12.84



Private Secretary