

CONFIDENTIAL



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. RICKETTS
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

BAHAMAS

It may be worth recording that the Prime Minister had a word last night with the Prime Minister of the Bahamas. Mrs Thatcher referred to Mr. Pindling's comment in the CHOGM debate yesterday to the effect that if small states were not able to defend themselves they perhaps had no right to be independent states. When Mrs Thatcher referred to this remark in her talk with Mr. Pindling last night, he said that the fact was that, the way things were going, small states in the Caribbean were likely to be the "new colonies of the United States".

A. J. Cole.

24 November 1983

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