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PRIME MINISTER

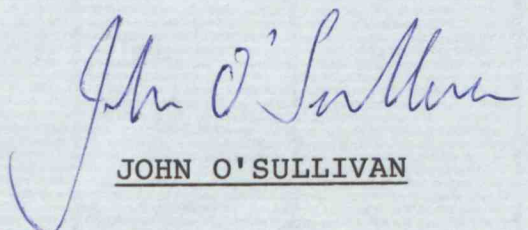
13 May 1988

PROJECT 2000

In his proposed response to the UKCC on the reform of nurses' education and training, Mr Moore anticipates most of the points we might have wished to urge on him.

1. He stresses that nurses training should be made practical and not be absorbed by higher education.
2. He aims to reduce highly skilled professional nurses as a percentage of the total from the present 63% to 45/50%.
3. He intends to "widen the gate" into the profession by admitting people with lower qualifications as non-professionally qualified support workers (in place of the present enrolled nurse).

These and other points in his note suggest that the danger, feared at Chequers, that nursing might become over professionalised, can be avoided. I would urge you to accept Mr Moore's note. We will have to keep a careful watch, however, on the progress of negotiations with the Royal College.



JOHN O'SULLIVAN

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