General Secretary: Trevor Clay M Phil RGN RMN FRCN Patrons: Her Majesty the Queen Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret Countess of Snowdon 20 Cavendish Square London W1M 0AB Telephone 01 409 3333

MRH/HCP

26 May 1989

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Charles Powell Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SWIA 2AA

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The Prime Minister wrote to Trevor Clay on 23 May about the NHS Policy Board and the exclusion of nursing from its membership. Mr Clay is in South Korea on international nursing business and I am writing on his behalf to acknowledge Mrs Thatcher's letter.

Mr Clay and I have discussed the matter by 'phone and his concern and disappointment at the decision to preclude nursing formally from the Policy Board is great. He knows that his concerns are shared by the profession and the issue is one which he will address as soon as he returns to the UK in early June. Although many thousands of miles away, Mr Clay would not like it to be thought that he is not deeply troubled by the decision or that the Royal College of Nursing regards the matter as settled.

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Director of Administration

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