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CJH/AFT

28th April 1978

The Archbishop discussed Bishop Torrella's letter with me yesterday evening and, as you will know from your own discussions, he seems very much in favour of the line taken in your draft reply.

Having had a little more time to think about it, there were one or two things in the way of drafting points which I offered to the Archbishop and which he is happy with, if you are.

In the third paragraph and the last line perhaps the "all" should be removed. You will remember that we do not quite know the status of Fr. Congar who left because of sickness before the end.

In the fifth paragraph perhaps the last sentence could be made even stronger by a final clause something like "which for us will mean distribution to the Churches of the Anglican Communion". I suppose Rome as the authority can decide not to receive a report, but only the General Synods of the Anglican Communion can do that and they cannot do that without seeing it!

I have been looking again at the Information Service of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity and in particular at the report of the Plenary Session of the Secretariat in 1976 (No. 33, 1977, 1). It is made perfectly clear that the Consultation was in the air, though there is no precise reporting of the fact that the Plenary Session accepted that this should take place, though this is certainly what happened, as several members of the Secretariat have confirmed and also Consultants, such as Canon Richard Stewart.

With warm best wishes,

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