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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Civil Service 28

cc: HO WO
 FCO SOC. SER.
 HMT DES
 DOI MR. CHANNON
 D/EM (CSD)
 MAFF MR. MARTEN
 DOT (FCO)
 D/JEN CO
 CHIEF SEC. CDL
 MOD
 SO
 Env.
 24 July 1979

SF 27779
for Hansard

Dear Jim,

Dispersal

The main conclusions of the E discussion on Civil Service dispersal this morning were:-

- (a) That option 1 should be adopted in full and that in addition there should be a significant dispersal to Scotland and, to the extent that this was possible, Bootle. A "substantial" dispersal to Scotland was not defined with precision but the meeting had considerable sympathy with the view of the Secretary of State for Scotland that at least 2,000 jobs should be involved.
- (b) That the favoured sites for dispersal in Scotland were East Kilbride and Glasgow, St. Enochs.
- (c) That a statement should be made to Parliament on Thursday afternoon. It was, the Committee thought, important that the announced moves should be in terms of identified Departments and not simply numbers of staff.
- (d) That a small committee should be established to work out details and to agree a draft Parliamentary statement before Thursday. They would report to the Prime Minister.
- (e) That the membership of the Committee (MISC 12) would be:-

- The Lord President of the Council (in the Chair)
- The Secretary of State for Defence
- The Secretary of State for the Environment
- The Secretary of State for Scotland
- The Chief Secretary, Treasury
- The Minister of State, Civil Service Department
- The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Mr. Marten)

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I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to all those present at the meeting, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Martin Vile.

Tom

Tim Lambert

Jim Buckley, Esq.,
Lord President's Office.

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