

Ref. A09501

PRIME MINISTER

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You will probably know that the preparations for the Economic Summits are made by a group of Personal Representatives of the Heads of Government concerned rather than through the normal bureaucracy. I have represented the United Kingdom hitherto and I should be grateful if you would let me know whether you are content for me to continue to do so. *Yes - I can continue. MS.*

I have to ask this question now because, before the Election was called, a Preparatory Meeting was arranged to take place in Washington on 17th-19th May. This would mean me leaving by the Concorde on the evening of Thursday week (but I would of course be present for Cabinet that day) which should get me to Washington in time for a working dinner that evening. The meeting would continue through Friday and Saturday and I would fly back on Saturday night. For the meeting itself (but not for the working dinner which is confined strictly to Personal Representatives) I would be accompanied by Sir Michael Palliser and Mr. Couzens of the Treasury. *Can he be spared in view of the Budget.*

Although my main purpose in going to Washington would be in connection with the Economic Summit preparations, you should know that Dr. Brzezinski has asked me to have a working lunch alone with him at the White House on the Friday. This would provide a convenient opportunity to open up the reconfirmation of the various nuclear agreements as between you and President Carter if you have been able to hold the proposed Restricted Meeting of Ministers before I leave for Washington.

*Agreed MS.*

*John*  
JOHN HUNT

8th May, 1979

*Please give him my warm regards.*

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PRIME MINISTER

You agreed that Sir John Hunt should travel to Washington for the 17-19 May meetings in preparation for the Tokyo Economic Summit.

You agreed that Sir M. Palliser should accompany him, but you asked whether Mr. Couzens could be spared in view of the Budget.

Mr. Couzens handles the Overseas Finance side of the Treasury. He is not directly involved in Budget preparations. It is important that the Treasury should be fully involved in Economic Summit preparation.

Are you content that Mr. Couzens should go?

*Yes and*

*MA*

9 May 1979

Economic  
Policy

10 May 1979

The Prime Minister has seen Sir John Hunt's minute of 8 May, in which he proposes that he should attend the preparatory meeting for the Tokyo Economic Summit accompanied by Sir Michael Palliser and Mr. Couzens.

The Prime Minister is content with these arrangements.

M.A. PATTISON

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