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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

28 June 1979

Disposal of Assets

The next meeting of E(DL) Committee, which the Prime Minister will chair, has now been set for 1715 on Thursday 5 July. I have put to the Prime Minister the points put forward by the Financial Secretary in your letter of 27 June. She agrees that, in view of the close link between the future of BNOC and the disposals exercise generally, Mr. Howell's paper on the future of BNOC should be taken by E(DL) - rather than by E(EA). She would be grateful if Mr. Howell would proceed accordingly.

The Prime Minister also agrees that the Committee should consider the option of BP purchasing all of BNOC's assets; and for this purpose, she would like Mr. Howell to prepare a separate paper dealing with this possibility.

The Prime Minister has asked that the Secretary of State for Scotland should also attend the E(DL) meeting.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(DL) Committee, the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate and Sir John Hunt.

T. P. LANKESTER

Mrs. P.C. Diggle,  
H.M. Treasury.

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*Alm*