PRIME MINISTER

FREEZE ON MANPOWER

I have seen a copy of Mr Stowe's note of 8 May to Sir Ian Bancroft about the proposals for Civil Service manpower which we discussed at our informal meeting yesterday.

- 2. The drafting of this paper is already in hand. The issues involved will affect all departments and, if you agree, it would therefore seem necessary that they should be considered by Cabinet. I understand that Treasury Ministers will be putting a paper to next week's Cabinet which will deal with the whole range of problems arising from the impact of public sector pay settlements on cash limits, and you may think it desirable for the two papers to be considered together.
- 3. I am aiming to let you see a draft of my paper by the end of the week.
- 4. I am copying this minute to Sir Ian Bancroft and Sir John Hunt.

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SOAMES
9 May 1979

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