

Prime Minister

Shall we try and
fit in a meeting
as suggested at X?



PRIME MINISTER

Yes not

R
31/7

EX COMMITTEE

I welcome very much your initiative in setting up this Committee, which reflects the priority that we must give to promoting trade and avoiding Departmental log-jams.

There are, of course, a considerable number of major projects being pursued by our companies, on which Departments are in continuous touch about the best form and timing of support. Since the Committee has been established no particular cases have arisen which need to be brought to it before the Summer Recess. It is, however, in the nature of these cases that issues can arise unpredictably and at short notice, so that I cannot entirely exclude cases coming forward over the next few weeks.

Unless, however, one of these transpires, I would suggest that a formal meeting of the Committee could be left until September.

Agreed

On the other hand it would be particularly useful if you could spare the time for a short briefing meeting to which I could bring my new Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary responsible for this area of activity, to clarify how we could best prepare material for this Committee.

X

Agreed

I am copying this minute to Peter Carrington, Geoffrey Howe, Keith Joseph and Sir Robert Armstrong.

SW

JN

Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street
London, SW1H 0ET

31 July 1980