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10 DOWNING STREET

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THE PRIME MINISTER

19 December 1980

"lear Th. Kenelcl.

Thank you for your letter of 9 December, referring to the Report in the Sunday Telegraph of 7 December of an interview which I had given.

I did not suggest that Sir Bernard Scott was appointed to the Inquiry into the Value of Pensions because he was not going to enjoy the benefit of an inflation-proofed pension. The members of the Inquiry were selected and appointed as having between them a wide range of experience and authority, drawn from work in industry, commerce, public service, the trade union movement, and the actuarial and economics professions.

On your second point, the terms of reference given to the Inquiry were those published, with which you are familiar. It would however be natural and welcome that the Inquiry should indicate its views generally on index-linked pensions as part of a full response to the terms of reference given to them.

W. L. Kendall, Esq.

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