

2 pps

PRIME MINISTER

BNOC: SALE OF SHARES

I have seen a copy of David Howell's minute to you about his plans to privatise the oil-producing business of the British National Oil Corporation. I strongly support these proposals which will make a significant contribution to our general initiative on privatisation.

I am copying this letter to other members of E Committee, Sir Robert Armstrong and Mr Robin Ibbs.

K

24 July 1981

Department of Industry Ashdown House 123 Victoria Street