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11 DOWNING STREET
WHITEHALL, S.W.1

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## Transcript of note by Sir Geoffrey Howe to his Private Secretary, Tony Battishill

### First page

185 11 Downing Street Whitehall, S.W.1

#### **URGENT**

# <u>A.B.</u>

Some [further] thoughts which shd. feature (probably best) in note of last night's meeting with Govr. [Governor of the Bank of England, Gordon Richardson]

- (1) Did we discuss or take enough note of the positive system (made at time of E.C. [Exchange Control] decision) (& since but where?) in favour of intervention to keep £ up and £M3 [money supply] down?
- (2) Have Bank [of England] taken on board our wish (Tsy [Treasury], and mins [ministers] certainly) for actively selling Gilts, finding/[?evolving] ways of doing so.
- (3) Ditto & not just the Bank the need to seek every way of improving next month's figures.

## **Second page**

- (4) Nobody mentioned but I have since thought just worthwhile to ask about the possible role of changes in regime of control for H.P. [hire purchase] deposits, repayments etc. I know the arguments against, but are they in this crisis less than decisive?
- (5) Nor the need to design for delivery when? over the weekend? Sat a.m., when I open the CPC [Conservative Political Centre] confce [conference] in constit [his constituency] a better & more broadly directed version of the Chancellor's speech (involving others than him: B.U. [Brian Unwin], M.B., P.M. [Peter Middleton], D.W. [Douglas Wass], K.C. [Ken Couzens])

GH

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