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N. Owen



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

8 July, 1985.

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's letter of 1 July to the Secretary of State for Defence, and the latter's reply of 4 July. She has noted that both the Secretary of State for Defence and the new Management of Westlands oppose a takeover by Marmon. While she has noted the general arguments against an American takeover, she believes that a different American offer would have to be judged on its merits.

I am sending copies of this letter to Peter Ricketts (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury), Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence), and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(Andrew Turnbull)

John Mogg, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

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