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Richard Hatfield Esq
Private Secretary
Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO
Secretary of the Cabinet
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
LONDON SW1A 2AS

12 July 1984

Dear Mr Hatfield

CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR AN OIL TANKER DRIVER STRIKE

My Secretary of State has seen a copy of Sir Robert Armstrong's minute of 3 July to the Prime Minister covering a report of the Working Group on Contingency Planning.

He welcomes the report's conclusion that it is now possible to make more favourable assumptions about levels of delivery and that this should make it possible to protect essential transport services. He agrees that further work on legal aspects (which must include the rules on drivers hours) and the possibility of obtaining oil delivery vehicles without requisitioning should now be put in hand.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretaries of State for Energy, Defence, Scotland, Employment and Trade and Industry.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Derwent

H C S DERWENT
Private Secretary

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