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From The Secretary of State for Wales

Oddi wrth Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru

01-233 6106 (Llinell Union)

The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP

De Th

11/

36 November 1980

TEXTILES

I have just returned from two days in North Wales where I met local authorities and trade union representatives. Great concern was expressed to me with considerable vehemence about the textile industry and the future prospects of Courtaulds.

On my return I have seen your minute of 21 November to the Prime Minister in which you suggest that you might make an announcement, when you wind up today's debate, about import quotas. I think that a major issue of this sort requires a good deal more deliberation than an announcement today would allow. I understand that Sir Keith Joseph has asked you to stay your hand on this and not to make the announcement you propose. I fully share Keith's view about this.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Neil

The Rt Hon John Nott MP Secretary of State for Trade Department of Trade 1 Victoria Street LONDON

