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NBN

Ken Clarke

MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE THE EFFECTS OF MAJOR REDUNDANCIES

Thank you for the copy of your letter of 25 September to John MacGregor about the proposal to set up an official group to advise on individual cases involving major redundancies. I have also seen Nicholas Ridley's response of 3 October.

I think that this approach is well worth trying. Provided such special packages are used sparingly, this approach could offer advantages in tackling the economic problems facing areas of high unemployment and in ensuring that the measures that we are able to take are presented as helpfully as possible.

I was surprised to learn that my officials had not been directly involved in the work of the official group and I would suggest that it could be useful if my Department were more closely involved in the future work of the standing Group. We have had some experience in handling these problems, particularly in relation to British Rail and the changes that are taking place in the railway workshops.

/ I am copying this to the Prime Minister and to other members of E(A).

John Moore
JOHN MOORE

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