

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 December 1980

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Dear Michael,

Visit of Japanese Foreign Minister

I have written to you separately to suggest points which the Prime Minister might raise when Mr Ito calls on her on 10 December. The omission of Nissan is deliberate. While the Prime Minister may wish to talk in general terms about Japanese investment, we would advise against mentioning Nissan's prospective involvement here. Mr Ito may not have been informed of the project at this stage, and some at least of the accompanying officials will certainly not be aware of it.

If Mr Ito himself raises Nissan, the Prime Minister may wish to say that the Government is in principle in favour of Japanese inward investment in the UK and that Nissan's ideas for a British operation are being examined by her officials. The Government has not yet formed a final view but hopes to do so shortly.

yours pror

(R M J Lyne) Private Secretary

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