



JAPAN

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SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT TO JAPAN : HONDA.

1. WE WILL REPORT SEPARATELY ON HONDA / BL ASPECTS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH KAWASHIMA AND OKAMURA OF HONDA ON 20 JANUARY, WHICH WENT VERY WELL.

2. AT THE END OF THE MEETING, KAWASHIMA VOLUNTEERED THAT, WHILE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH BL REMAINED THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR HONDA AT PRESENT, HE WAS PREPARED, IF IT WOULD BE WELCOME TO HMG, TO INITIATE A FEASIBILITY STUDY INTO POSSIBLE MOTOR CYCLE MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT IN BRITAIN. MR JENKIN WELCOMED THIS VERY POSITIVE STATEMENT AND CONFIRMED THAT HMG WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO COOPERATE AS APPROPRIATE OVER THE FEASIBILITY STUDY. BOTH KAWASHIMA AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE THEREFORE PROPOSE TO REFER TO THIS PROPOSAL AT SEPARATE PRESS CONFERENCES LATER TODAY ALONG THE GENERAL LINE THAT THERE WAS DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE HONDA MOTOR CYCLE MANUFACTURE IN BRITAIN AND THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE WELCOMED WARMLY HONDA'S DECISION TO CARRY OUT A FEASIBILITY STUDY.

3. WE WILL TELEGRAPH PRESS STATEMENTS AND

3. ~~WE WILL TELEGRAPH PRESS STATEMENTS AND
PRESS COMMENT AS THEY COME TO HAND.~~

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