

~~MR K R STOWE~~

PA
MS



... With this minute, I am sending to you papers about the machinery of government which have been prepared here on a contingency basis against the possibility of a Conservative Administration taking office following the Election on 3 May. Naturally, they are coming to you on a purely personal basis as you may welcome the opportunity to have a chance to study them in advance of the time when they may be needed.

2. There are two papers:

- i) a paper on the possibility of rolling up ODM again with the FCO;
- ii) a paper discussing a possible merger between DPCP and the Department of Trade (apart from some functions which would return to MAFF).

3. Both papers have been cleared with Sir Henry Rowe, but none of the Departments concerned have been consulted in their preparation or are at present aware of their existence.

4. If Mrs Thatcher becomes Prime Minister following the Election, I will send you separately an "open" minute to cover these two papers which I want to offer to her on taking office. If she wants papers on other MG topics, I have a number ready.

5. When you have had a chance to look through the papers, you may wish to have a word with me about them.

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IAN BANCROFT
1 May 1979