

CONFIDENTIAL

File

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 February 1986

Dear Joan

BLANK TAPE LEVY

The Prime Minister has seen the Lord President's minute of 13 February, and she was able to have a word with him about it today.

The Prime Minister has agreed, with considerable reluctance, that the White Paper should contain proposals for a levy on blank audio cassette tapes, as H, on balance, agreed. The Prime Minister noted the arguments put forward at H Committee on Tuesday 11 February. Her own view, however, remains that the proposal will lead to a good deal of unjustified additional bureaucracy, and that there will be an outcry from those who wish to purchase blank tapes and who do not wish to use them for copying.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of H, to John Mogg (Department of Trade and Industry) and to Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Z er

Mark Addison

(Mark Addison)

Miss Joan MacNaughton,
Lord President's Office.

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