

not Incl

PRIME MINISTER

Meeting with Sir Robert Atkinson : Monday 14 February at 1445 hours

I asked Mr. Jenkin's office whether there were any points on which they wanted to alert you before Sir Robert Atkinson came.

Mr. Jenkin's Secretary thinks that he may well want to raise with you the arrangements for his leaving British Shipbuilders. His contract ends in December. Mr. Jenkin would have liked him to go in July, but Sir Robert Atkinson would prefer to go in September and Mr. Jenkin is likely to accept this. Sir Robert Atkinson would like to remain nominally as Chairman until the end of his contract, but to take a world cruise from September onwards, leaving Mr. Graham Day to take over from September: Mr. Jenkin does not want to agree to this, because he thinks it important that Mr. Day should not only take over ^{in September} ~~as soon as possible~~ but have full authority ^{then.}

If Sir Robert Atkinson raises this subject, the advice is that you should be sympathetic but should not give any encouragement to the idea that he should stay nominally Chairman of British Shipbuilders after September.

They add that Sir Robert is inordinately pleased with his knighthood; if you congratulate him on that, it will get things off to a good start. He attended his Investiture on Thursday 10 February.

F.R.B

11 February 1983