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CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister

CDP 3/7.

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MR POWELL

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: WORK OF THE COMMISSION ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY

You should know that Mr Ronald Grierson, Vice Chairman of GEC, has been asked by Mr Davignon to write a short report on the main objectives and approach of the Commission to its work on industrial policy over the next few years.

Mr Grierson expects to submit his report in September and will discuss the main points with us before he does so. I am drawing this to your attention now because, when he saw me this morning, Mr Grierson said that he might be mentioning this to the Prime Minister.

2. Mr Grierson's own views are on the lines that a great deal of Government (and Community) financial intervention in industry makes little or no difference to industrial development and employment. It is, at best, neutral. The Commission should not be proposing grandiose schemes of temporary glamour but no long term benefit. On the contrary, its continuing task is to attack hidden barriers to a genuine common market, including such sensitive subjects as public procurement.

3. I am sending a copy to Sir Robert Armstrong.

D F Williamson

D F WILLIAMSON

3 July 1984

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Mr. Williamson

European Community: Work of the Commission on
Industrial Policy

Thank you for your minute of 3 July recording that Ronald Grierson has been asked by Mr. Davignon to write a report on the Commission's future work on industrial policy over the next few years. The Prime Minister was grateful to be informed of this.

CP

4 July, 1984.

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