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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

23 January, 1985

SCRUTINY OF BURDENS ON BUSINESS

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The Prime Minister is keen to see progress to remove as many obstacles to entrepreneurial activity as possible and looks to the scrutiny to identify what must be done to lessen the burdens of government on business. When the central report on the scrutiny is submitted early next month the Prime Minister will be asking the Minister without Portfolio, as part of his work on de-regulation, to take the lead in monitoring and accelerating the way in which the recommendations are taken forward urgently to action, working closely with Sir Robin Ibbes and with all the Departments which have taken part in the scrutiny. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister would be grateful if the Home Secretary and other Ministers involved in the scrutiny could indicate their reactions to the broad thrust of the proposals in the relevant departmental scrutinies. She considers it would be particularly helpful to have these by the time the central scrutiny report is expected (8 February).

I am sending a copy of this letter to Leigh Lewis (Office of the Minister without Portfolio), other Private Secretaries of Ministers in charge of Departments, Ian Beesley (Efficiency Unit) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(David Barclay)

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Home Office.

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