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Prime Minister (1)

PRIME MINISTER

Agree?

Yes not

Yes 2/11

SOCIAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

We discussed at Cabinet today the importance of presenting well the social security decisions for next year, and the Industry Secretary suggested that we set up a small committee. May I suggest that the Lord President might take the Chair, and that the membership might consist of the Industry Secretary, the Chief Secretary, the Agriculture ^{and} or Employment Secretary and myself. I think it important that we get down to work very quickly, and the first question we shall need to consider is the handling of the necessary legislation.

I am copying this minute to Sir Robert Armstrong.

2 November 1982

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Econ Pol: Inflation Prof Review PH4 J1
Econ. Pol

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 November, 1982.

Dear David.

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 2 November about the follow-up to the Cabinet's decision earlier that day about social security and related matters.

The Prime Minister has decided to set up two Ministerial Groups: one on presentational and other issues in relation to the decisions and legislation required for recovery of pensions over-provision: the second to consider the policy and legislative implications of the proposal to break the existing statutory link between the increases in state retirement pensions and index-linked public service pensions.

The Secretary of the Cabinet will be in touch further with your Secretary of State about the arrangements.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Michael Scholar

D.J. Clark, Esq.,
Department of Health and Social Security.

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Econ Pol : Inflation Prop d pensions
Pt 4

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From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

SOCIAL SECURITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS

The Prime Minister was grateful for your minute of 15 November, in which you recommended that a Ministerial Group on pensions legislation be set up; and that there should be further consideration later of a further Ministerial Group on social security.

The Prime Minister has commented that presentational and other issues are arising already. She would accordingly like both of these groups to be set up immediately.

The Prime Minister would be grateful if you would put the necessary arrangements in hand.

Mes

18 November 1982

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10 DOWNING STREET

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Prime Minister

I'm sorry to trouble you yet
again with this.

You decided to set up both
groups of Ministers now; but
thought that the presentation / legislation
group should be ^{not a new group but} an existing
group on presentation chaired by the
Lord President.

Yes not
He has no such group currently.
Agree that a new group as at X
be set up as well as the 'link group'?

MLC 17/11