

CONFIDENTIAL

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MR. MOUNT

Future of NEDO

This was discussed at the Prime Minister's meeting with the Chancellor of the Exchequer today. There was no real conviction that NEDO was particularly helpful but it was felt that there might be some small public relations value in retaining it and that the row in disbanding it would not be worthwhile. Its activities have been cut back and the CBI continues to attach value to it. The Chancellor said that some changes had been made to make it slightly less tri-partite. A small businesses' representative now sat on the Council and he would be proposing to the CBI that they include a representative of the Retail Consortium within their team.

The Prime Minister said that she might consult you further to see if there were any other small changes which could be made to its structure.

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6 October 1983

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