



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

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FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

David Barclay Esq  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

30 July 1984

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 26 July enclosing a copy of Earl Jellicoe's letter of the same date to the Prime Minister, requesting a meeting. It crossed with my Secretary of State's minute to the Prime Minister on the same subject. My Secretary of State hopes that, despite the many demands on her time, the Prime Minister will agree to Earl Jellicoe's request; and he would like to be present. The situation is serious. The MRC does not lightly seek such meetings; it is the first time during Sir James's period of office that they have asked to see my Secretary of State. And the request was made, we understand, at the insistence of the whole Council. These considerations, and likely Parliamentary and wider public interest, would make it right as well as courteous to agree. We will of course provide a full brief.

I am copying this letter to Steve Godber and John Gieve, and to Robin Nicholson.

Yours,

Elisabeth

MISS C E HODKINSON  
Private Secretary