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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

25 March 1985

The Prime Minister heard yesterday that Bechtel (UK) had been told that the Offshore Supplies Office did not regard them as a qualified UK contractor and that any petroleum group which included Bechtel (UK) as part of a consortium would be disqualified for the purposes of the Offshore Supplies Office. This report may be exaggerated but the Prime Minister feels that, if the United Kingdom is to be successful in attracting inward investment, we cannot treat in this way those who invest here such substantial amounts as Bechtel have invested.

I should be very grateful if you could let me have comments on the point which has been made ~~to~~ the Prime Minister.

FEBB

Michael Reidy, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

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