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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

26 July, 1988.

Dear Neil,

SPACE: FUTURE ROLE OF BNSC

The Prime Minister has seen Mr. Clarke's further minute of 25 July.

I should be grateful if you and copy recipients would ensure that this letter is seen only by named individuals with a clear operational interest.

In the light of his further comments, the Prime Minister is prepared to agree that the existing structure of the BNSC should continue for a period. But she continues to have serious doubts about the case for a separate structure, and its level of staffing, and she therefore wishes these arrangements, including the separate location, to be rigorously reviewed in twelve months time.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(ST), and to Trevor Woolley and John Fairclough (Cabinet Office).

Yours,
Paul

Paul Gray

Neil Thornton, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

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