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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

22 January 1986

Dear Richard,

ROSKILL REPORT

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to Stephen Boys Smith of 21 January.

The Prime Minister hopes the Chief Secretary will be able to bring forward recommendations about Roskill's proposals for a unified organisation so that they can be considered in the same timescale as the other proposals made in the Roskill Report. She has noted that the Home Secretary intends to put a paper to H Committee on these by Easter and would be grateful if the Chief Secretary would also aim at a report by Easter.

I am copying this to Joan MacNaughton (Lord President's Office), John Mogg (Department of Trade and Industry), Stephen Boys Smith (Home Office), Michael Saunders (Law Officers' Department), Richard Stoate (Lord Chancellor's Office), David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office), John Bartlett (Bank of England), Lance Railton (Customs and Excise), Catherine Brand (Inland Revenue) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,
David.

(David Norgrove)

R.J. Broadbent, Esq.,
Chief Secretary's Office.

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Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Stephen Boys-Smith Esq
 Private Secretary to the Home Secretary
 Home Office
 50 Queen Anne's Gate
 London
 SW1

21 January 1986

Dear Stephen

ROSKILL REPORT

David Norgrove's letter to me of 13 January recorded the Prime Minister's request that the Chief Secretary should consider Roskill's recommendations for a unified organisation with the aid of an interdepartmental working party of officials.

The Chief Secretary proposes as a first step to ask an interdepartmental group of officials to agree an issues paper. He has asked David Peretz in the Treasury to make the necessary arrangements for the interdepartmental group and to chair it. Representatives of the following departments, in addition to the Home Office, will be invited to attend:

Department of Trade and Industry
 Law Officers' Department
 Bank of England
 Customs and Excise
 Inland Revenue

By building on the work done in 1983 by the interdepartmental group chaired by Mr Monck, the Chief Secretary hopes it will be possible to complete this phase of the work by mid-February. He proposes then to invite Ministerial representatives of the departments listed above to meet him to discuss the main themes to be pursued and the sort of conclusions which might emerge. This would provide guidance for the official level group to start work on a draft report.

The Chief Secretary envisages holding a further Ministerial meeting to discuss the draft report before he reaches final decisions on the recommendations he will

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put to the Prime Minister. His aim is to make recommendations by the end of April.

I am copying this letter to David Norgrove (No. 10), Joan MacNaughton (Lord President's Office), John Mogg (DTI), Henry Steel (Law Officer's Department), Richard Stoate (Lord Chancellor's Office), David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office), John Bartlett (Bank of England), Lance Railton (Customs and Excise) Catherine Brand (Inland Revenue) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Yours Sincerely
R J Broadbent
R J BROADBENT
Private Secretary

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