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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
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David Norgrove Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1A 2AA

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1st July 1986

Bonnie Minister²

Dear David,

*ALW
2/7*

ENGINES FOR BRITISH AIRWAYS 747-400s

My Secretary of State's minute to the Prime Minister of 25 June said that British Airways hoped to complete their evaluation of the proposals of all three engine manufacturers early in July.

However, as I have already mentioned to you, late last week both General Electric and Rolls Royce asked for an extension in the time they could have to answer BA's questions, and BA have agreed to this. Co-incidentally, both engine companies asked for a deadline of 18 July.

This means that the report which my Secretary of State promised will be similarly delayed. I can, however, confirm that Lord King will provide the results of BA's preliminary evaluation so that the issues can be considered by Ministers before a proposal is put to the BA Board for decision.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(A), to Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office) and to Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

*Yours,
Richard.*

R A ALLAN
Private Secretary

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