



cc Mr Dwyer *B*

From the
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

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CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

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GREEN PAPER ON TRADE UNION IMMUNITIES

Jim Prior's minute to you of 19 December enclosed a text of the Green Paper amended following our discussion at the meeting of E on 16 December (E(80)44th meeting).

I am concerned that the redrafted paragraph 34 in Chapter III D - which follows the minutes of our meeting - does not accurately reflect what I believe we had agreed. I do not recall that the text which appears in the minutes was approved as such. I understood that the only substantive changes to the text proposed in John Nott's letter of 12 December were to delete "very" in the first line and "serious" in the fourth line.

I apologise for raising the point at this late stage but my reason for doing so is that while, of course, we clearly decided not to announce our earlier decision to legislate, our public stance in the Green Paper should be that the Government is concerned about the way the law operates in respect of international shipping, and that consideration at least should be given to legislation.

I am copying this minute to members of E Committee and Sir Robert Armstrong.

How
PP NT

(approved by and signed in his absence)