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c: All Cabinet Ministers Ch Whip, H/C Ch Whip, H/L Law Officers' Dept Cab. Office

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

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Personal Minute No. M882

MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF DEPARTMENTS

I informed the Cabinet today that the increase in Sir Derek Rayner's business responsibilities means that he must on wow relinquish his leadership of the Unit which bears his name. I have accepted this decision with regret; and an announcement is being made today.

Sir Derek Rayner has kindly agreed to continue to advise me and the Lord Privy Seal on general efficiency questions as necessary. He will continue to work with the Chief Secretary, Treasury and the Lord Privy Seal on the financial management initiative and to advise the Secretary of State for Social Services on management matters in the National Health Service, notably the scrutiny programme now being developed.

The Rayner Unit will continue to operate under the direction of Mr. C. Priestley, who since May 1982 has also been in charge of the management and efficiency divisions of the Management and Personnel Office. The Unit will provide staff support for Sir Derek Rayner as required and co-ordinate the programme of Departmental scrutinies.

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9 December 1982