

FILE

Cabinet DS



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MARTIN VILE
CABINET OFFICE

The Prime Minister has seen Sir John Hunt's minute of 14 May, about the Paymaster General's interest in following the work of a number of Cabinet Committees.

The Prime Minister is content that all Cabinet Committee agendas, papers, and minutes, should go to the Paymaster General, but she does not wish to make any additions to the membership of these Committees.

M. A. PATTISON

16 May 1979

ABO

1. Mr. Wolfson
You may wish to comment
2. Prime Minister.

K.R.S.
14/5

MR. STOWE

The Paymaster General, as the Minister responsible for co-ordination of Government information, has asked if he can:-

- (i) become a full member of the following Ministerial Committees -
 - Economic Strategy (E)
 - Sub-Committee on Economic Affairs (E(EA))
 - Home and Social Affairs (H)
 - Legislation (L)
- (ii) be free to attend all other Cabinet Committees, in an advisory capacity, if there are items on the agenda which interest him;
- (iii) receive a copy of all Cabinet Committee papers so that he could proceed as at (ii) above.

2. The Paymaster General, though a member of the Cabinet, is not at present on any Cabinet Committees. If the Prime Minister wants him to play a part in committee work I think he could well be added to E(EA), H and L. I am however less sure about E itself. This is very much a strategy Committee and the Prime Minister has deliberately kept it small. If Mr. Maude is added there may well be Ministers who will feel that they have much better claims to membership.

3. As regards his wish to see all Cabinet Committee papers and to attend meetings in an advisory capacity at his own wish, I rather doubt whether this is practicable. For example would the Prime Minister want him to be sent all the papers of OD or OD(E)? It seems to me that adding him to E(EA), H and L would go a long way to meet his legitimate interests (and we could consider him for membership of The Queen's Speech Committee next time): but that we should also provide in Questions of Procedure for him to see in advance copies of Parliamentary Statements, White and Green papers etc., so that he could advise on their public presentation.

No - for the reasons advanced
with regard to the papers. But like
John Hunt

John Hunt

14th May 1979



The Government of India, Ministry of Health, is pleased to inform you that the following information is being furnished to you for your information.

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11 4 MAY 1970



John Doe