

SUBJECT
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cc Mason

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

23 June 1981

PM

As you know, Mr. Geoffrey Robinson, MP, came to see the Prime Minister last evening, to discuss redundancies at the two Jaguar factories in his Coventry constituency. Mr. Tebbit was also present.

Mr. Robinson drew attention to coverage in the local press of Mr. William Wilson, MP's request for a meeting with the Prime Minister, the Prime Minister's refusal to see him and her acceptance of a request from Mr. Robinson. The Prime Minister stressed that she had made it clear in public that she would always see the Member in whose constituency a closure was taking place. In the case of Coventry, she had been prepared to see Mr. Robinson in view of the heavy redundancies at Jaguar.

The discussion covered both Mr. Robinson's interest as constituency Member and his personal interest in the problems of the motor industry from his time as Managing Director and Chief Executive of Jaguar cars.

The Prime Minister agreed that Mr. Robinson could, in response to press enquiries, say that she had confirmed that the £900 m. package of further finance for British Leyland included provision for a new Jaguar model scheduled for 1984, which was a firm part of the company's plans; and that the Government knew of no intention on the part of British Leyland to produce this model elsewhere than at Coventry.

MAP

Peter Mason, Esq.,
Department of Industry.

JFH