

We have been telephoned by the BBC and ITN claiming that Mr Rubinstein has said that the Cabinet Office have imposed a 1530 embargo on the press statement and answers to questions by Blunt which are taking place at the moment. I have discussed with Martin Vile, Cabinet Office. There is no truth whatever in this story. No deadline has been imposed. The arrangements for and timing of Blunt's press statement are naturally a matter for him and his legal adviser.

[For our own information: The Cabinet Office naturally inquired of Rubinstein when the press statement would be made just so we knew the position for PM's Questions today etc. But there was no question of any deadline being imposed.]