



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 June 1980

*Dear Lord Diplock.*

Security Commission: Mr. J.B. Wagstaff

In the light of your advice, I have consulted the Leader of the Opposition and have decided, in accordance with the arrangements announced in 1969, to ask the Security Commission to investigate and report upon the circumstances in which John Barry Wagstaff, a former Executive Officer in the Ministry of Defence, has been charged with an offence under the Official Secrets Acts, and upon any related failures of departmental security arrangements or neglect of duty. In the light of the investigation, I should be obliged if you would advise whether any change in security arrangements is necessary or desirable.

In view of the pending criminal proceedings, I assume that you will wish to proceed in secret. I do not propose to make any public announcement until those legal proceedings are complete.

I propose, if you agree, to ask Lord Greenhill of Harrow and Admiral Sir Horace Law to serve with you as the other two members for this investigation.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Diplock

CONFIDENTIAL

*Yours sincerely*  
*Raymond Storer*