

Mr B... [Handwritten signature]

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AMC 0121
20 JUL 1981

VH
Ann Stewart
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Mr Berthoud

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION

1. Chief Justice Bora Laskin dined last night with the Benchers of the Middle Temple. I was able to have a few words with him after dinner about when the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on the constitutional issue might be expected. He said that he had recently gone back to Ottawa "to try to knock a few heads together" (to use his own words). He had not, however, been very successful in this task, the clear implication being that the Supreme Court was still seriously divided.

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2. The Chief Justice will be in this country until about the end of this month. On 25 July, he is going up to Cambridge to take part in a conference organised by the Canadian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. I did not discover anything further of his plans. I presume that he will be returning to Ottawa some time in early August.

3. The Chief Justice also let it be known, in general conversation, that he had received more letters from the general public on this issue than on any other issue which had come before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Ian Sinclair

Ian Sinclair
Legal Adviser

16 July 1981

- cc PS/LPS
- PS/Mr Ridley
- Mr Day
- Mr Ure
- Mr Freeland
- Mr Parry

x What we thought & reported after the Canada Day get-together
* Pl copy to Ottawa.
done

Mrs B
17/7