

Canada
~~Mr Coles (or)~~

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 183

CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 301530Z DEC 81
TO IMMEDIATE OTTAWA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 473 OF 30 DECEMBER.

YOUR TELS NOS 741 AND 739: CONSTITUTION

1. THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE REPORT THAT GEORGE ANDERSON HELPED IN DRAFTING THE PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY TO M LEVESQUE AND YOU ARE FREE TO DENY ANY SUCH STORY.
2. WE HAVE SEEN ANDERSON ONLY SOCIALLY. A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION OF THE DEA'S ASSERTION IS THAT WHEN NEWS OF THE LEVESQUE LETTER BECAME PUBLIC, THE HIGH COMMISSION HERE SUGGESTED TO US HOW WE MIGHT REPLY, AN OFFER WHICH WE POLITELY BUT FIRMLY DECLINED. IT MAY BE THAT THE DEA (WHOSE INITIATIVE THIS COULD WELL HAVE BEEN) THOUGHT ANDERSON WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THIS.
3. WE INTEND TO GIVE COPIES OF THE CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CANADIANS ONCE THE PRIME MINISTER HAD APPROVED AND SIGNED THE REPLY, WHICH AS YOU KNOW HAS NOT YET HAPPENED AND IS UNLIKELY TO UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK.
4. WE WILL TRY TO TELEGRAPH THE PROPOSED DRAFT REPLY TO YOU BEFORE SUBMITTING TO NO 10 (YOUR TELNO 739). OUR PRESENT THINKING IS THAT THERE WILL BE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD RELEASE THE TEXT, ALTHOUGH OF COURSE LEVESQUE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY DO SO.

CARRINGTON

CANADIAN CONSTITUTION LIMITED
 NAD
 CCD
 P & CD
 PCCU
 PARLIAMENTARY UNIT
 NEWS D
 INFORMATION D
 PS
 PS/LPS
 PS/MR LUCE
 PS/MR HURD
 PS/LORD TREFARNE
 PS/PUS
 SIR E YOUDE
 MR DAY
 MR URE
 LORD N G LENNOX
 CABINET OFFICE

COPIES TO:

SIR I SINCLAIR }
 MR FREELAND } LEGAL ADVS.
 DR PARRY }

PS/CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER

PS/LORD CHANCELLOR HOUSE OF LORDS

PS/LORD PRESIDENT

MR H STEEL, LAW OFFICERS' DEPT

PS/HOME SECRETARY

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

CONFIDENTIAL