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CONFIDENTIAL

June 22, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

Patriation: The Situation in London

While in London last week I had a meeting with senior officials of the Foreign Office, the House Leader's office and the Attorney-General's office.

I reviewed the situation now that the Court will not deliver its judgment before it adjourns. I pointed out:

- that we may have to await the reconvening of the Court in the fall, or
- that the Court may announce, when it adjourns on June 25th, that it will meet for one day during the summer for the purpose of delivering its judgment on the constitutional matter.

I agreed that I would let them know if the Court makes any announcement on June 25th, so that they will be up-to-date in time for your meeting with Mrs. Thatcher on June 26th.

In the ensuing discussions it was made very clear to me that the British Government has now concluded that their own interests, as well as Canada's, will best be served by disposing of the Canadian measure at the earliest possible time.

Various possible future scenarios were explored:

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Michael J.L. Kirby

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