

Duty Blank No 10

Aerospace

DISTRIBUTION SELECTED
FILE CGPM

GPS 220

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FM DUBAI 210822Z DEC 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCC

TELEGRAM NUMBER 146 OF 21 DECEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE DOT ABU DHABI

INFO PRIORITY BAHRAIN DOHA MUSCAT

M I P T: LONDON-GULF-HONG KONG AIR SERVICES.

1. FOLLOWING IS OPERATIVE PART OF LETTER:

I WISH TO ADDRESS YOU ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PROPOSED AIR SERVICES OF LAKER AIRWAYS TO SHARJAH, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

IT WAS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I LEARNED OF THE DECISION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE, MR NOTT, THAT LAKER AIRWAYS SHOULD BE LICENSED TO OPERATE AIR SERVICES ON THE ROUTE LONDON-SHARJAH-HONG KONG WITH THE RIGHT TO CARRY TRAFFIC TO AND FROM SHARJAH. I WAS THEREFORE DISAPPOINTED WHEN THE AUTHORITIES IN HONG KONG REFUSED PERMISSION FOR THIS SERVICE AND I HOPE THAT EARLY STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO ALTER THEIR DECISION THOUGH I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SITUATION IS COMPLICATED.

MEANWHILE, I AM TOLD THAT LAKER AIRWAYS ARE PREPARED TO COMMENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AIR SERVICES ON THE LONDON-SHARJAH SECTOR ONLY OF THIS ROUTE. I TRUST THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM AUTHORITIES WILL LOOK FAVOURABLY ON THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

MY GOVERNMENT SEEKS NO CONCESSION IN RETURN FOR THE RIGHT OF LAKER AIRWAYS TO OPERATE AIR SERVICES FROM LONDON TO OR THROUGH SHARJAH WITH FULL TRAFFIC RIGHTS AT SHARJAH. SUCH RIGHTS ARE FREELY GIVEN, NOT ONLY BY MY GOVERNMENT, BUT ALSO BY THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS.

I SHOULD BE PLEASED IF YOU COULD LET ME HAVE THE BENEFIT OF YOUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

HASKELL

LIMITED

MAED

MED

HKGD

ESSD

DEFENCE D MR JC MOBERLY

PS

PS/LPS

PS/MR HURD

LORD BRIDGES

MR BRAITHWAITE

SIR J CRAWFORD

COPIES SENT TO
No. 10 DOWNING STREET

[CAIR/DOT]

CONFIDENTIAL