



Prime Minister

Agree that drafting should go ahead? No objections have been raised?

Yes Mr.

MMP 11/4.

PRIME MINISTER

CIVIL AVIATION (EUROCONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chairman of OD Committee.

Willie Whitelaw wrote to me on 3 April confirming that the Queen's Speeches and Future Legislation Committee had agreed that the Civil Aviation (Eurocontrol) (Amendment) Bill should be included in the legislation programme they will be recommending to the Cabinet for the 1982/83 session and that this Bill should be taken under the Second Reading Committee procedure. The Bill was duly included in Annex C of C(82)10.

The purpose of the Bill is to give effect in UK law both to the Eurocontrol International Convention relating to Co-operation for the Safety of Air Navigation as amended by a Protocol which was signed by the UK and 7 other European states in February 1981, and also to the Multilateral Agreement relating to Route Charges signed at the same time. The Bill is necessary to enable the UK to ratify both the amended Protocol and Multilateral Agreement which should come into force on 1 March 1983. The 8 signatories of the Protocol are Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and the United Kingdom. The Multilateral Agreement has been signed by these states and Austria, Spain and Switzerland.

The functions of the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (Eurocontrol) are altered by the amending Protocol so as to reflect the way in which they have developed since the Organisation's inception in 1963. The Multilateral Agreement signed by the 11 contracting states facilitates the adoption of a common policy in respect of charges for en route air navigation facilities and services. A particular benefit to the UK is that in the financial settlement under the revised arrangements, we will receive £4m (a figure which decreases the longer we delay ratification of the amended Protocol).

I should therefore be grateful for your agreement to the preparation of the Bill as soon as possible, as the amount of time available for drafting Bills in the Second



Reading Committee list is limited.

I am sending copies of this minute to the other members of OD, the Lord President of the Council and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Arthur Cockfield

LORD COCKFIELD

Department of Trade
30 April 1982

File

280

MR. WRIGHT

CABINET OFFICE

CIVIL AVIATION (EUROCONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL

You will have seen the Secretary of State for Trade's minute of 30 April, seeking policy clearance for the above Bill, to enable drafting to be put in hand quickly.

OK / Can you confirm that you are not aware of any Ministerial objections to Lord Cockfield's proposal?

M. A. PATTISON

5 May 1982

4

Legislative: Laline 109



Parliament

Ref. A08375

MR PATTISON

MR

Civil Aviation (Eurocontrol) (Amendment) Bill

In your minute of 5th May to me, you asked whether we were aware of any Ministerial objections to the proposal made by the Secretary of State for Trade in his minute of 30th April to the Prime Minister. This is to confirm that we are not aware of any such objections.

D J WRIGHT

11th May 1982



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 May, 1982

CIVIL AVIATION (EUROCONTROL) (AMENDMENT)

BILL

The Prime Minister has seen the Secretary of State for Trade's minute of 30 April, in which he seeks authority for the preparation of the above bill.

The Prime Minister is content that drafting should proceed.

I am sending copies of this letter to David Heyhoe (Lord President's Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. A. PATTISON

J Rhodes, Esq
Department of Trade

256