



Minister for Housing and Construction

Department of the Environment
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CEB/CND
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30 January 1985

Prime Minister

To note

Dr
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Dear Andrew,

INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON STANSTED/HEATHROW T5 INQUIRIES

I am sorry not to have replied earlier to your letter of 7 January about the debate on the Inspector's report.

You will know that the debate today will be on a motion to adjourn the House and that it has been agreed that Ministers and PPS's should abstain at the end of the debate if there should be a vote. I enclose a copy of the Attorney General's letter of 16 January about the part which Ministers may play in the debate.

The Lord Privy Seal announced at business questions last Thursday that "after the decisions" (on the Inspector's report) "have been taken and announced, the House will be given a further opportunity to debate and, if it wishes, to vote on the Government's airports policy". The form that that debate will take will need to be considered after today's debate, in the light of decisions which Ministers reach on the Inspector's report.

On the question of new evidence, Mr Gow will explain to the House tonight that if he and the Secretary of State for Transport are disposed to disagree with any recommendation made by the Inspector as a result of taking account of new evidence or a new issue of fact, not being a matter of Government policy, then they are under a statutory duty to inform the parties to the inquiries and to afford them an opportunity of making representations on the new evidence or new issue of fact.

I am copying this to David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office),
Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office), Dinah Nicols (Department of
Transport), and to David Serjeant (Law Officer's Department).

Yours,

Neil King

N KINGHAN
Private Secretary

AEROSPACE : Third London Airport : Nov 79.