

From: Sir Ewen Broadbent KCB CMG
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2nd PUS/DP/273/84

14 August 1984

P Le Cheminant Esq CB
MPO

Don Peter

LEAK INVESTIGATION

Thank you for your letter dated 13 August 1984.

I have now discussed this matter with my Secretary of State who is in agreement that the necessary first step is for the Director of Public Prosecutions in consultation with the Law Officers to consider whether a prosecution should be brought under the Official Secrets Act. He also agrees that not until this has been done can we sensibly consider the action to be taken about the resignation which was offered on 10 August, and the institution of internal disciplinary proceedings.

The Chief Constable of the Ministry of Defence Police is in touch with the Director of Public Prosecutions and he is providing him with the necessary documents and information in the case. Meanwhile Mr Ponting has been seen by Richard Hastie-Smith, the Principal Establishment Officer today and handed the enclosed memorandum.

I also attach a copy of the line we are proposing to take in public until it has been decided whether or not there should be a prosecution.

I am copying this letter to Robert Armstrong, Tony Hetherington, Robin Butler, Antony Acland, John Bailey and John Jones.

*Yours
Ewen*

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