

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

pa a
weekend
file

Notes to Record

Leon Brittan telephoned me this morning to say that he was writing to Sir Robert Armstrong to invite him to supplement his evidence to the Defence Select C+tee. L B said that his reading of the transcript of evidence over the weekend suggested that Sir Robert had given a flagrant steer which pointed in a particular direction which he could not accept. It did not make clear that he gave clear instructions to his appraisals about

clearance with No 10 and that DTI
officials believed that they had clearly
implemented his instructions. If Sir Robert
could not supplement his evidence,
he, L B, would have to put the record
straight with the Cttee. He did not
have the option to leave the position as it is.

I reported this to Sir Robert
who agreed to see L B urgently (pressed for 11.30am)
provisionally before he wrote his letter. I told L B.

I also reported to C.W.,
L P and P N. C W suggested Sir Robert might
send a letter to the Cttee which would sound
in effect, having read the transcript and my
answers, I am satisfied enough, but
I told the Cttee was factually
correct. My statement does have to be



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considered ~~opportunities~~ ^{with} the PNs 2 statements
which, of course, have "printing" (not use
this word). I told Robert. Following
consultation with L.P. and C.W. and P.N., I
told Robert that if he ran into
difficulty, we might need to consider only
S.G.H. & S.P.H. & L.B.

N.C.W.

Feb 10.