

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Prime Minister <sup>(2)</sup>

We are awaiting de Hume  
Secretary's response to put on  
de A-G's right to refer  
12 February 1986

PRIME MINISTER

acquitted to the Court of  
Appeal. MHA 12/2

LENIENT SENTENCING

Lord Justice Tasker-Watkins informs me privately that  
next week the Lord Chief Justice is going to deliver a  
guideline judgment on the subject of rape. He is also taking  
on board, for further discussions with the Lord Chief Justice,  
proposals that we have been developing with the former Lord of  
Appeal, Sir James Cumming-Bruce, for possible minimum  
sentencing <sup>legislation</sup> for robbery (mugging) and rape.

All this appears to be a constructive way ahead on  
lenient sentencing.

JB

HARTLEY BOOTH

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~