



Prime Minister. |

Consent?

full

31/3

020  
Ref. A01840

PRIME MINISTER

Yes and.

Civil Contingencies Unit

During his absence abroad from 3rd to 21st April, the Home Secretary suggests that the Secretary of State for Employment should act, in case of need, as chairman of the Civil Contingencies Unit. This seems sensible. The job requires an authoritative senior Minister, and Mr. Prior is also departmentally involved in almost all important CCU matters. If available the Secretary of State for the Environment would have been a good candidate; but he too will be abroad during much of Mr. Whitelaw's absence.

2. May I let Mr. Whitelaw and Mr. Prior know that you agree?

RA

(Robert Armstrong)

31st March, 1980



SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

CIVIL CONTINGENCIES UNIT

I have shown the Prime Minister your minute AO1840 of 31 March 1980, and she agrees that the Secretary of State for Employment should act, if necessary, as Chairman of the Civil Contingencies Unit in the absence abroad of the Home Secretary from 3-21 April.

E. A. WHITMORE

1 April 1980