

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

cc Mr. Whittingdale ✓

SCOTTISH REBELS

MLB JAW

The Chief Whip has spoken to Allan Stewart and has made some progress. The latter has indicated that, even if he voted against the guillotine, he would not undermine his subsequent progress on the remainder of the Bill.

Not much progress was made with Bill Walker. He voted against a clause this morning, though the absence of a Labour Member meant that it went through.

Sir Nicholas Fairbairn remains passionately opposed to the Bill. He sees it as an attempt to bring Scottish Law into line with English Law, something he rejects in principle. It is very likely that he cannot be won round, even after a meeting with you.

All three conversations were amicable and all three of them have agreed to reflect over the weekend and to speak to the Chief Whip. He will then advise on whether there is any scope for you to intervene. It is looking as though Allan Stewart can be won round anyway but the other two may be lost causes.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

28 June 1990

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