

File SW

MR. WHITMORE

The First Sea Lord rang today to ask whether he might have a five minutes personal chat with the Prime Minister about H.M.S. Invincible. He said that he did not wish to exploit the present situation but that he had various suggestions to make which might be helpful for the forthcoming debate in the House of Commons.

With the Prime Minister's agreement, I rang back to say that it would be difficult for her to fit this in in current circumstances but perhaps the First Sea Lord might like to have a word with you. If he does, his Private Secretary will probably contact you tomorrow.

A. J. COLES

4 April, 1982