

PRIME MINISTER

Lord Shackleton's Report

It would be helpful if you could let me know after the weekend how you wish this Report to be handled in Whitehall. At the moment, as you know, I have only sent copies to <sup>the</sup> Foreign and Defence Secretaries and Sir Robert Armstrong for their personal use. Further copies are available. It will speed up work if the Cabinet Office can be authorised to distribute copies to all members of OD(FAF) and any other Departments who will need to be involved in considering the recommendations. Agree that we should proceed in this way?

I also attach a letter from Lord Shackleton's Private Secretary listing a number of people to whom Lord Shackleton would like to send the confidential version of his Report. Distribution of these confidential versions will of course increase the risk of leakage. But you may think that, provided Lord Shackleton emphasises personally to all those on the list that they must protect the contents of the Report carefully, they may all receive copies.

*Agree? Yes - but it would be better if they had the 'restricted' version*

The letter refers to Lord Buxton's request for a copy of the Report. Would you wish him to have one also?

*otherwise the public  
hardly think I should  
A.S.C. not be published  
will get into the  
press  
not*

30 July 1982