

SUBJECT



cc Minister

Security
L. V. AB

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SENIOR STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

The Prime Minister discussed with you this morning the chairmanship of the JIC under the new arrangements which she announced to Parliament this week. You said that there was more than one possibility. The chairmanship of the JIC would not occupy the holder's full time, and the post would therefore need to be combined with another one. One possibility was to combine it with the post of Intelligence Co-ordinator, as suggested in your minute of 24 December: another was to combine it with the Head of the Assessment Staff.

The Prime Minister then discussed with you names of possible chairmen. One possibility was Admiral Sir James Eberle. The Prime Minister said that she would not be averse to appointing Sir Antony Duff as chairman for an interim period, but before making a final decision she asked you first to consult Mr Whitmore about Sir James Eberle and to report back to her.

F.R.B.

28 January 1983



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

I have warned Sir

Robert Armstrong that on Friday
you are likely to want to
discuss with him

- i. Chairmanship of JIC
- ii The staffing of the
Assessment staff - the point
which Lord Frankel raised
with you.

PERB

24.1.