



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

14 June, 1982

Dear Colin,

I have shown the Prime Minister your letter of 10 June about the independent review of the radio frequency spectrum between 30 and 960 MHz, and she is content for the Home Secretary to proceed as he proposes.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E Committee and to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours now,

Anne Whitmore.

C J Walters, Esq
Home Office

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

18 May 1982

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Dear Mrs Pallett,

I have shown your letter of 17 May 1982 to the Prime Minister, and she agrees that Dr J H H Merriman should be invited to chair the review of the radio frequency spectrum between 30 and 960 MHz.

Yours sincerely,

Alvie Whimpey.

Mrs Lesley Pallett,
Home Office.

AH

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



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HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

Prime Minister.

*Agree with Dr Merriman's
chair the review?*

17 MAY 1982

Dear Mr Whitmore,

Mr

M.r.

Yes Mr

Thank you for your letter of 6th May conveying the Prime Minister's agreement to the Home Secretary's proposal to establish an independent review of the radio frequency spectrum between 30 and 960 MHz. The other members of E Committee have also indicated their agreement.

As the Home Secretary explained, the task of the review will be to examine the pattern of occupancy in this frequency range and against that background to assess the future requirements for spectrum and the prospects for meeting them. The review will also consider the adequacy of the existing machinery for consultation regarding the use of the spectrum and for the assignment of frequencies. It is, of course, important in this increasingly controversial field with strong support for particular interests that the review should be directed by an expert whose reputation is unquestioned, and the Home Secretary would very much like to have as chairman Dr. J. H. H. Merriman, one time senior Director of Engineering of the G.P.O., who chairs the N.E.D.O. Information Technology Sector Working Party and serves as a member of the N.E.D.O. Electronics Economic Development Committee. He is 67, but very active, and his age is not in our view any bar to his appointment. This is not, of course, a standing committee and Dr. Merriman will bring to the review the necessary wealth of experience in radio matters.

The Home Secretary would therefore be glad to have the Prime Minister's agreement to our making an approach to Dr. Merriman. We shall in due course submit for approval a draft arranged Parliamentary Question and Answer announcing the review, and we shall also put forward our proposals for the other members of the review team.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Pallett

MRS. L. PALLETT

C. A. Whitmore, Esq.

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