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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

6 July 1982

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 1982 about the independent review of the radio spectrum.

I have consulted the Prime Minister, and she is content for the Home Secretary to approach Air Vice Marshal Foden and Mr. Philip Vine.

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

C. A. WHITMORE

Mrs. L. Pallett, Home Office. From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

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HOME OFFICE

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Last March Foren

F5 JUL 1982'

Thank you for your letter of 14th June conveying the Prime Minister's agreement of our proposals for an independent review of the radio spectrum.

Unfortunately, both Major General Sir John Anderson and Mr. Douglas Janes have had to decline the invitation to serve as members of the team because of their existing heavy commitments. We have discussed the position with Dr. Merriman, and subject to the agreement of the Prime Minister we propose to approach Air Vice Marshal Foden of R.A.C.A.L. who was formerly Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Signals), and Director of G.C.H.Q; and Mr. Philip Vine, Chairman of the New Towns Staff Commission, who previously served on the Police Complaints Board. Air Vice Marshal Foden could provide not only the necessary expertise on defence communications, but also an industrial input; while Mr. Vine's wide administrative experience would be particularly helpful in that part of the review which deals with the adequacy of radio regulatory machinery.

Informal enquiries suggest that both these individuals should have the time to spare and Dr. Merriman would be content to have them serve under his chairmanship. He has suggested that as the review team gets into its stride a need may be felt for a fourth member, perhaps with an academic background, but we can consider that further if we pursues the idea. Such a member would not be needed for the interim report on Bands I and III since the timescale for the submission of that report is now extremely tight, it would be most helpful if you could telephone me to let me know whether these two names are acceptable to the Prime Minister.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to Members of E Committee and David Wright in the Cabinet Office.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Pallette

MRS. L. PALLETT

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