

Ref. A082/00029

MR BUTLER

*with  
Miss Edmond  
Yes. J*

Following the Prime Minister's meeting at Chequers on 23rd October, I attach a draft Press statement and notes for editors on the appointment of Sir Anthony Parsons. This has been agreed with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Sir Antony Acland and Sir Anthony Parsons himself.

2. The statement and notes will need to be buttressed with background briefing which presents the appointment as agreed between the Prime Minister and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary in the interest of better management of foreign policy and closer co-ordination between 10 Downing Street and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in that regard.

3. If we can come to a decision fairly soon about a Defence Adviser (on which I am minuting you separately) I should see advantage in announcing both appointments at the same time. If that is not possible, the Prime Minister may want to go ahead soon with the announcement of Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment.

4. I recommend that Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment should be subject to the standard arrangements and conditions for Special Advisers. It is agreed with the Treasury that he should be graded as Second Permanent Secretary, as I gather Alan Walters is. As he is to work three days a week, his salary will be three-fifths of the salary of a full-time Second Permanent Secretary. His total remuneration (salary plus pension) will be limited to that appropriate to the grade in which he retired (Diplomatic Service Grade 1, equivalent to Permanent Secretary). His appointment will cease either with the end of the present Administration; or when there is a General Election, on the day after polling day. If there is no change of Government, it will of course be open to re-appoint him. He will be required not to engage in public or broadcast discussion of matters of party political dispute, or of

current or pending Ministerial consideration of policy, or of his role as Special Adviser and his relationship with the Prime Minister and with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and he will be expected to seek the Prime Minister's and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's agreement if he wishes to broadcast, write or speak about historical aspects of foreign affairs.

5. I understand that Sir Anthony Parsons has agreed direct with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and Sir Antony Acland arrangements for his working relationships with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

8th November 1982

## DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT

In consultation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary the Prime Minister has appointed Sir Anthony Parsons GCMG to be adviser on foreign affairs with effect from 1st January 1983. Sir Anthony Parsons will work at 10 Downing Street in close co-operation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with other Departments with an interest in foreign affairs.

### NOTE FOR EDITORS

1. Both the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary place great trust and confidence in the wisdom and experience of Sir Anthony Parsons. There is continuous contact between 10 Downing Street and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the formulation of British foreign policy; Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment will help to ensure that that contact is close and effective in the furtherance of the objectives of foreign policy.
2. The appointment will be part-time, on the basis of three days a week. It will carry the grading of Second Permanent Secretary.
3. Sir Anthony Parsons was borne in 1922. He was educated at King's School, Canterbury and Balliol College, Oxford. He joined the forces in 1940; and transferred to the Diplomatic Service in 1952 when he went as Assistant Military Attache to Baghdad. His career in the Diplomatic Service has included spells in a number of posts in the Near and Middle East and in the Gulf; he was British Ambassador in Iran from 1974-79. He served as Counsellor

in the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations from 1969-71, and as United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1979-1982. He retired from the Diplomatic Service in July 1982.

Secretary of Defense Affairs

Sir Frank Cooper has offered three candidates for consideration as an Adviser on defense affairs at 13 Downing Street. All are Assistant Secretaries. They are, in alphabetical order:

R J Locking (19)

J W Logge (28)

D W Omond (31)

I attach brief biographies of each.

1. I do not know Michael Logge by sight, but I know the other two only slightly. So I cannot do other than report without comment Sir Frank Cooper's judgement that the right choice would be Michael Logge. All three have Private Office experience: David Omond was the Secretary of State's Private Secretary until recently; Mr Logge's Private Office experience was during 1980-81. Mr Logge may well be the best choice; I think that Mr Locking could not fill a close need.

2. I am sure that any of them would serve the Prime Minister well, and I think that the final choice may need to be made after interviewing the three of them. Perhaps you would like to consult the Prime Minister about that: would she like to see all three herself, or will she be content for you and me to interview the three of them and then to present her with our choice?

3. Whoever is chosen will be the Prime Minister's adviser on defense affairs. He will need to develop the same sort of relationship with the Ministry of Defense as Sir Anthony Parsons will have with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. No doubt they will in practice work together on issues where foreign and defense policy come together but, theoretically, I suggest, to be formal links: the adviser on defense affairs will not "report to" Sir Anthony Parsons, and will not have access to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.





10 DOWNING STREET

## Press Notice

### APPOINTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISER

The Prime Minister has appointed Sir Anthony Parsons, GCMG, MVO, MC, to be Adviser on Foreign Affairs with effect from 1 January 1983. Sir Anthony Parsons will work at 10 Downing Street in close co-operation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with other Departments with an interest in foreign affairs.

24 November 1982

#### Notes for Editors

Sir Anthony Parsons' appointment has been made in consultation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. It is designed to facilitate and reinforce the continuous contact between 10 Downing Street and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the formulation and furtherance of foreign policy.

The appointment will be part-time, on the basis of three days a week. It will carry the grading of Second Permanent Secretary.

Sir Anthony Parsons was born in 1922. He was educated at King's School, Canterbury and Balliol College, Oxford. He joined the forces in 1940, and in 1952 became Assistant Military Attache, Baghdad. His subsequent career in the Diplomatic Service included spells in a number of posts in the Near and Middle East and in the Gulf; he was British Ambassador to Iran from 1974-79. He served as Counsellor in the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations from 1969-71, and as United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1979-82. He retired from the Diplomatic Service in July 1982.

APPOINTMENT OF SIR ANTHONY PARSONS

Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment is as an adviser to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs. He will be a member of the staff of 10 Downing Street, assisting the Prime Minister in her work on foreign affairs and working in close co-operation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with other Departments with an interest in those issues. His appointment is designed to facilitate and reinforce the continuous contact between 10 Downing Street and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the formulation and furtherance of foreign policy.

Sir Anthony Parsons's function will be advisory, like that of other special advisers in 10 Downing Street and elsewhere. His role will be to assist the Prime Minister by identifying policy issues requiring or likely to require her attention, advising her on them and contributing to the formulation of Government policy. The appointment involves no change in existing departmental functions or Ministerial responsibilities.

MR. BUTLER

C. McFall  
Sir A. Adland

Sir Anthony Parsons

I agree that Sir Anthony Parsons should not appear before the FAC.

I am content with the draft letter and note, subject to the following suggested amendments:

Draft letter:

Line 3, delete "special".

Lines 4 to 6, delete "and some.... the New Year".

Draft note:

Line 1, delete "special".

Line 15, after "advising" insert "her".

("Special advisor" is a bit of a term of art; as it was not used in the memorandum, I think we should avoid using it in his letter and note.

RCA 26 vii

Thursday 25 November 1982

(Answered by the Prime Minister on Friday 26 November 1982)

UNSTARRED Mr Tam Dalyell: To ask the Prime Minister, how many  
NO. 148 staff will be assigned to Sir Anthony Parsons; and  
what their Civil Service ranks will be.

Sir Anthony Parsons will receive support from  
a personal secretary already on the staff of  
10 Downing Street.



Thursday 25 November 1982

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(Answered by the Prime Minister on Friday 26 November 1982)

UNSTARRED Mr Tam Dalyell: To ask the Prime Minister, pursuant  
NO. 145 to her reply to the honourable Member for West  
Lothian on 24th November, to which Civil Service  
grade Sir Anthony Parsons has been appointed.

Sir Anthony Parsons' appointment as Adviser on  
Foreign Affairs carries the grading of Second  
Permanent Secretary.

Thursday 25 November 1982

(Answered by the Prime Minister on Friday 26 November 1982)

UNSTARRED Mr Tam Dalyell: To ask the Prime Minister, what  
NO. 146 rules govern the abatement of pensions of senior  
civil servants who are subsequently appointed as  
special advisers by Ministers.

Retired civil servants employed as special advisers  
by Ministers are subject to the provision under which  
the pensions of retired officers re-employed elsewhere  
in the Civil Service are liable to abatement (rule  
3.26 of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme).

F E R Butler Esq.

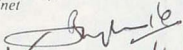


CABINET OFFICE 3.30.

F. Butler

(would prefer Wednesday  
(or Thursday 3.30). Wednesday  
would be best. P.A.  
could set tied up  
with Drabs on  
Thursday.

With the compliments of  
Sir Robert Armstrong KCB, CVO  
Secretary of the Cabinet

cc M. Ingham  16  
11

Pl. note x1  
below. Can you suggest  
date(s) at which we  
might aim next week.

70 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AS  
Telephone: 01-233 8319

FERB

15.11.

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

Gov mach



CABINET OFFICE

70 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AS Telephone 01-233 8319

From the Secretary of the Cabinet: Sir Robert Armstrong KCB, CVO

Ref. A082/0092

12 November 1982

Sir Anthony Parsons

Thank you for your letter of 9 November.

As I told you on the telephone, the press statement and notes for editors have been approved by the Prime Minister in the form attached, save that she has taken out the first eight words of the statement, and has inserted at the beginning of the first note a sentence which reads: "Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment has been made in consultation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary".

19.11.82 X I have reminded Robin Butler that the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would like to have a word with Bernard Ingham before any announcement of Tony Parsons's appointment is made. As I told you on the telephone, I should think that the announcement might well be made some time next week, perhaps simultaneously with a parallel announcement about a possible defence adviser.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Robin Butler.

**ROBERT ARMSTRONG**

Sir Anthony Acland KCMG KCVO

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL



DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT

In consultation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary the Prime Minister has appointed Sir Anthony Parsons GCMG to be adviser on foreign affairs with effect from 1st January 1983. Sir Anthony Parsons will work at 10 Downing Street in close co-operation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with other Departments with an interest in foreign affairs.

NOTE FOR EDITORS

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in the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations from 1969-71, and as United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1979-1982. He retired from the Diplomatic Service in July 1982.

Govt Mach:  
- Reorganisation of  
HMT  
- PM's Dept. etc

in the United Kingdom Mission to the United States from  
1882-11, and in United Kingdom (Foreign Office)  
to the United States from 1875-1882. He retired from  
the Diplomatic Service in July 1947.

11/12/1982  
B 9  
R 9  
11/12/1982  
11/12/1982

Govt Mach  
Mr. Anderson



Personal

Ref. AO82/00028

MR BUTLER

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- I attach three minutes to you on the arrangements for providing the Prime Minister with advice on foreign affairs, defence affairs and intelligence.

2. As to the draft Press Statement on the appointment of Sir Anthony Parsons, I would myself have been minded to omit the first eight words from the draft Press Statement itself, and to include the thought in an additional first sentence in the first of the notes for editors, which might read: "Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment has been made in consultation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary". The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would, however, prefer the reference to consultation with him to be included in the draft Press Statement itself.

3. While the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary would be content with the appointment of an Adviser on defence affairs to be announced at the same time as Sir Anthony Parsons, he would not wish the announcement of Sir Anthony Parsons's appointment to be held up on this account, and indeed thinks that it would be as well for the announcement to be made sooner rather than later. He has said that he himself would like to have a word with Mr Ingham before the announcement is made.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

8th November 1982