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Prime Minister



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PRIME MINISTER

BRITISH AIRWAYS AND BRITISH CALEDONIAN -v- LAKER

1. On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Justice Parker, who has been hearing applications in the Laker case, discharged the interim injunction that was restraining the Laker liquidator from taking further steps in the American proceedings.

2. BA and BCAL appealed yesterday to Lord Donaldson M.R. for the interim injunction to be restored. I attended by Counsel so as to be able to assist the Court and to inform Lord Donaldson of the latest developments, principally the request to the USA for formal consultations under the Air Services Agreement. Lord Donaldson reversed the Judge's Decision and restored the interim injunction. This is a good result as the injunction provides some limited protection for the airlines against developments in the USA.

3. I had earlier written to Mr. Justice Parker who has now said that he would hear the Crown state its position before he gives his substantive judgment. The way is therefore now open for me to submit observations at the further hearing before Judge Parker which is likely to be in a few weeks time.

4. I am copying this minute to Francis Pym and Arthur Cockfield.

M.H.

31st March, 1983

Legal Proceedure,
Mar '83 US Grand
Jury Investigation

31 MAR 1983



CONFIDENTIAL

for UK
Legal
Proc

5 April 1983

The Prime Minister has noted the contents of the Attorney General's minute of 31 March about the Laker case.

A SC

Henry Steel, Esq., CMG, OBE
Law Officers' Department

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