

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER FROM ANDREW TURNBULL

BL TRUCKS

MR. TEBBIT AND MR. YOUNGER MET IN PERTH EARLIER TODAY. I UNDERSTAND THEY AGREED THAT BL TRUCKS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT EA ON WEDNESDAY (MR. LAMONT WILL ATTEND IN PLACE OF MR. TEBBIT), AND POSSIBLY AT CABINET ON THURSDAY. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY DECISION WOULD BE MADE ON THE TUESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

I SUSPECT THESE ARRANGEMENTS ARE AS MUCH ABOUT FORM AS SUBSTANCE. MINISTERS WILL HAVE REPEATED IN PERTH THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN, AND IT IS THOUGHT IMPORTANT THAT BEFORE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE THAT THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN FORMAL MEETINGS AT WHICH THE DECISION WAS SEEN TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

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11 MAY, 1984.