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NBSM
AT 16/4

01-405 7641 Ext.

3229

Communications on this subject should
be addressed to

THE LEGAL SECRETARY

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS,
LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT,
ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,
LONDON, W.C.2.

Miss D Nicholls
Private Secretary
Secretary of State for Transport
Department of Transport
2 Marsham Street
London SW1

16 November 1984

Dear Miss Nicholls,

AVIATION AND US ANTITRUST: THE "LAKER" ISSUE

with CAB?

1. I refer to the Secretary of State of Transport's letter of 15 November to the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs in which agreement is sought this afternoon to proposed instructions to the delegation for the next round of negotiations with the Americans.
2. The Attorney General is abroad at present and returns on Monday. He has seen reports on each round the negotiations and has not expressed any adverse view on the emerging package. He has not however, had his attention specifically drawn to the proposed assurance on the powers in the Protection of Trading Interests Act.
3. I understand from Mr Knighton, who has led the UK delegation, that the negotiating strategy would only require this element of the deal to be considered at the very last stage in the negotiations. Accordingly, I suggest that I should invite the Attorney General to consider this as soon as possible on his return and were he to raise any points of difficulty over this aspect of the negotiations these could still be taken into account before the critical stage is reached.
4. I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Trade & Industry and the Cabinet Secretary.

*Yours sincerely,
Richard Gardiner*

R K GARDINER

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Legal Proceedure : Later

March '83

NOV 1984



Small red mark or stamp.