



CONFIDENTIAL

Chile

PRIME MINISTERChile
(OD)

Given the political delicacy of Lord Carrington's proposal to restore Ambassadors, in his minute of 17th September, you have agreed with your office that the matter should be placed on the agenda of tomorrow's OD meeting.

2. This is essentially a political matter but you may wish to guide your colleagues to agree with Lord Carrington's proposal, subject (a) to their views on the political overtones; and (b) to the following point of timing. As Lord Carrington's paragraph 8 notes, there are reasons why we may need to choose our moment carefully for announcing our decision. Given that, and the danger of a leak, it would be as well to ask Lord Carrington to remain non-committal in the contacts which his paragraph 11 envisages at the United Nations next week.

3. Ought Lord Carrington to mention this at Cabinet on 4th October? (Some Ministers interested - e.g. the Secretary of State for Employment in view of the TUC's obsession on the subject of Chile - are not members of OD.)

(John Hunt)

Letters giving the views of the
18th September 1979 Lord Chancellor, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and of the Minister of State & the Dept of Trade are attached. There is also a letter from the FLO about a case which has occurred, possibly in Santiago, about the identity of the next Head of Mission in Chile.

Hunt 18/9