

cc.
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PRIME MINISTER

Meeting with Sir Robert Armstrong at 0830 on Friday, 4 November

I suggest three subjects:-

1. The usual note on business for the next 3 weeks (below).

2. Sir Robert Armstrong's minute about transferring Michael Partridge to be head of the police department in the Home Office. I had a word with Mr. Fowler when he was here for Cabinet this morning, and asked him whether the loss of Michael Partridge would be a serious blow to DHSS's work on pensions. He said that, while Partridge was vastly experienced in these matters, there were other good people on this side in DHSS, and he had been reluctantly persuaded that it was in the overall public interest to agree to Partridge's move.

3. The leak of the MOD documents on missiles:

Mr. Heseltine's office have asked me to find out whether you agree with Mr. Heseltine's view that, in the absence of finding those responsible for leaking the documents, it would be wrong to ask the Attorney General to consider bringing a prosecution against the Guardian for publishing material which they knew to be secret. I have suggested to Sir Robert Armstrong that he should let you have his view on this.

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F.R.B.

3 November, 1983.