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01-233 8319

From the Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service

Sir Robert Armstrong GCB CVO

Ref. A083/3539

21 December 1983

Leak Inquiry: Cruise Missiles

As you know from our discussion earlier today, the Director of Public Prosecutions has decided that the police should now be brought in to conduct the investigation of the leak of the minute dated 20 October from your Secretary of State to the Prime Minister. This follows the Court of Appeal's judgment on Friday which led to the return of the document. If the necessary evidence is available, the DPP will want to consider instituting criminal proceedings.

The police officer who will be leading this inquiry is Detective Superintendent Hardy. He may well need to interview you and some of the staff of your Department. I have, however, spoken to the DPP and I understand that the police will initially concentrate their inquiries in the area to which the present evidence points most strongly. I know you will arrange for the police to be given all the help and co-operation necessary.

I am sending copies of this letter to Antony Acland, Brian Cubbon, Robin Butler, Janet Lewis-Jones, David Heyhoe, Henry Steel, and Murdo MacLean. I am also sending a copy to Tony Hetherington and John Jones for information.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Sir Clive Whitmore KCB CVO

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