



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
1-19 VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON SW1H 0ET

Telephone (Direct dialling) 01-215) 5186

GTN 215)

(Switchboard) 215 7877

From the Minister of State for Industry

NORMAN LAMONT MP

**CONFIDENTIAL**

The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin MP  
Secretary of State for the  
Environment  
2 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1

*Prime Minister*  
To note. This emphasizes  
the urgency of resolving the  
dispute about Type 22 Frigates  
and Cammell Laird. JF 1415

14 May 1984

*Dear Patrick*

You will wish to be aware that British Shipbuilders will be meeting the Shipbuilding Negotiating Committee on Tuesday 15 May, to continue their discussions about the future of the industry.

The main item to be taken at this meeting (which BS and the unions agreed some time ago to hold) will be Cammell Laird. You will recall that I wrote to the Prime Minister on 6 April warning of further redundancies at Cammell Laird. BS are now of the view that they cannot delay the announcement to the unions any longer.

As you and colleagues are aware, the future of Cammell Laird is somewhat bleak. We are currently discussing within E(A) various alternatives for the yard; but the common ground of all possibilities is a substantial reduction in the workforce.

BS called for 640 voluntary redundancies at Cammell Laird last October. Only 280 of these have been achieved, and BS will tell the SNC tomorrow that the balance of 360 must now be achieved by compulsory redundancies.

In addition, BS will call for 870 further voluntary redundancies but will tell the SNC that, if these are not achieved voluntarily within a certain time, the redundancies will have to be made compulsory.

After all these redundancies have been secured, the workforce will be down to 1,700, from its present level of nearly 3,000.

Finally, BS will tell the SNC that a further 450 jobs are at risk if Cammell Laird fails to secure an order in the very near future.



Copies of this letter go to other members of E(A), and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours*  
*Norman*

NORMAN LAMONT

NAC INA: Shipbuilding Pt 6