

CONFIDENTIAL

MR. BUTLER

HAMPTON COURT

In view of the interest shown by the Palace, you should perhaps be aware that Patrick Jenkin has now circulated a paper to H Committee setting out his proposals for granting leases to companies on flats at Hampton Court.

The Prime Minister's doubt about this proposition, and in particular the idea of the leases being granted by the Secretary of State as opposed to an independent body such as the Crown Estate Commissioners, are on the record (my letter of 1 August at the flap). The matter is being considered by H Committee with the Prime Minister's agreement, at the request of the Lord President.

I do not think we need to intervene again at this stage. But we might ask the Lord President to report the outcome of the discussion.

Agree?

David Barclay ^{Dmb} 5/11

Dmb

Yes.

It seems to me that the simple solution would be for the Secretary of State to lease the apartments to the Crown Estate Commissioners on terms which allowed them to sub-lease.

1 November 1984

But perhaps that is too simple?!
(You might try it on the Cabinet secretariat).
FERB

VSCADU

Done. They will put it to Doc. Dmb

1.11.