



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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PS/ Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

22 January 1986

*NW to see  
CDP mi*

John Wiggins Esq  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
LONDON  
SW1

*Dear John,*

WESTLAND : APPEARANCES BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEES

... I attach a Press release from the Trade and Industry Committee announcing their decision to carry out an inquiry into the Department's exercise of responsibilities in respect of Westland.

2 I also enclose a copy of Sir Humphrey Atkins' letter to my Secretary of State inviting him to appear on Wednesday, 29 January at 11.00am. Copies of my letter and its attachments go to Charles Powell (No.10), Sir Clive Whitmore (MoD) and to Michael Stark in Sir Robert Armstrong's office.

*Yours ever,*

*John Mogg.*

J F MOGG  
Private Secretary

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BOARD OF TRADE  
BICENTENARY



COMMITTEE OFFICE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

WESTLAND PLC

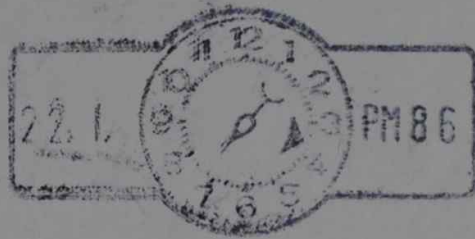
At its meeting this morning the Trade and Industry Committee of the House of Commons decided to carry out an inquiry into the exercise of the responsibilities of the Department of Trade and Industry for the sponsorship of aerospace in the case of Westland plc.

Details of the inquiry will be announced later.

22 January 1986

Sally de Ste Croix  
Simon Patrick

Clerks to the Committee







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DEFENCE COMMITTEE

22nd January 1986

*Dear Leon,*

As you know, my Committee are at present investigating the defence implications of the future of Westland plc. I am writing to invite you to give evidence to us on Wednesday 29 January at 11.00. I understand that you have an engagement at 13.00; I will therefore try to bring our session to a close by 12.50. It is possible that we may wish to continue our hearing in the afternoon; I would be most grateful if you would be ready to return to the Committee at 16.45 for about an hour. We will be able to confirm at the end of the morning sitting whether this will be necessary.

We hope to take much of our evidence in public; we are however, well used to taking classified and commercially confidential evidence; if such matters arise we will of course sit in private.

The title of our inquiry describes our main interest, but I think it inevitable that questions about the events of the past few weeks will also arise. I would be grateful if your office could let us know which officials, if any, you wish to give evidence with you; and if you would confirm that you will be able to give evidence to us at the times I have suggested above.

If you wish to submit any written evidence to the Committee before your appearance, of course we will be happy to receive it.

*Yours ever*

CHAIRMAN

*Humphrey*

Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP  
Department of Trade & Industry



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TRADE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

1 WESTLAND PLC

At its meeting yesterday the Committee decided that at its meeting on Wednesday 22 January it would consider whether or not to carry out an inquiry into Westland Plc.

Further press statements will be issued in due course.

2 THE TIN CRISIS

The Committee will take oral evidence on the above inquiry at 10.45 am on Wednesday 22 January in Committee Room 15 in public from Mr K H Wallis, Chairman and Mr K A Gilbert, Executive Deputy Chairman, Geevor Tin Mines plc; Mr A Holman, from N Holman and Son, and a representative from the Camborne School of Mines.

Sally de Ste Croix  
Simon Patrick

Clerks to the Committee

