

CONFIDENTIAL



PRIME MINISTER

PROTESTERS AT GREENHAM COMMON

I have seen a copy of the Home Secretary's minute to you of 21 February together with the paper by officials and Counsels' joint advice on the prospects for concerted civil action against the so-called Greenham Common Peace Camp.

Whatever is decided about a general co-ordinated approach (which looks less than promising), I think we must proceed as soon as possible with the minor road improvement scheme at the junction of the trunk road and the main access to the air base. The roadworks are needed for road safety and traffic reasons. To do the works, I must repossess the highway land in the vicinity of the junction. The campers and their dwellings will have to go. It is likely that the two local authorities will take some simultaneous eviction action. As the Home Secretary points out in his minute, while this would not achieve total clearance it would be a significant step forward and can be done without the apparent degree of provocation that a more general move against the women might provoke.

The roadworks should start by early April if the present contractor is to be used. Delay beyond then will mean that another contractor has to be found; this will put back the scheme by 3 months. Unless therefore you

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



and my colleagues feel strongly that I should hold my hand, I would propose to instruct my officials to proceed.

Copies of this minute go to the Lord President, the Lord Chancellor, the Home Secretary, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland, Defence, Scotland and the Environment, the Attorney General, the Lord Advocate, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'NR', is centered on the page.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY
29 February 1984

CONFIDENTIAL

Mrs. Ryder ✓

CONFIDENTIAL



Caroline

Pls speak about
the cast list.

10 DOWNING STREET

Dms
2/2

From the Private Secretary

22 February, 1984.

Protesters at Greenham Common

The Prime Minister was grateful for the Home Secretary's minute of 21 February, in which he suggests a discussion with colleagues about the possibility of concerted civil action against protesters at Greenham Common.

The Prime Minister agrees that such a discussion would be helpful, and we will be in touch with you and the other recipients of the Home Secretary's minute to find a time.

David Barclay

Nigel Pantling, Esq.,
Home Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

LIST A

- Home Secretary ✓
- Lord President *only Mon* ✓
- Lord Chancellor ✓
- ~~FCS~~
- S/ Defence ✓
- S/ Environment ✓
- S/ Transport — Lynda Chalkley
- Attorney General ✓
- RTA ✓

LIST B

- + S/ Scotland X
- Wales ✓
- N Ireland X
- Lord Advocate ✓
- FCS ✓

Shd be told of the
time and invited to
attend if they wish



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

22 February 1984

noted

*JMB
22/2*

Dear Robin,

PROTESTERS AT GREENHAM COMMON

The Lord President has seen the Home Secretary's minute of 21 February to the Prime Minister. He has said that he would like to attend any meeting of Ministers which is arranged to discuss this issue, since it involves major presentational problems.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Hugh Taylor and to Richard Hatfield.

Yours ever,

Janet Lewis-Jones.

JANET A LEWIS-JONES

Robin Butler Esq

Peace - Bringing of Demonstrations / Greenham Common

22 JAN 1984

TRIVY CONTROL OFFICE
LONDON W1X 7LW

11 12 11 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9



COOPERATION

Cardini

Could you please help us?

You asked for the attached
to be filed. What is the
meeting about?

Mark

27/2

Greentown Common

5 March

1700.

CR. 27/2



CF Please
file.
CR

10 DOWNING STREET

Caroline -

the Lord Advocate's office rang, to say
that he (ie Lord Advocate) will not attend
the meeting on 9/3/84 which you have
invited him to.

CSF
13/2/84

MR. BUTLER
MR. COLES
MR. TURNBULL
MR. FLESHER
MR. BARCLAY ✓
MR. ALISON
MR. SHERBOURNE

CF: No brief required
Please b/f for meeting.

DWB
23/2

I have arranged the following meeting with
the Prime Minister:-

Subject ... Protestors at Greenham Common ...
Date ... 5 March ...
Time ... 1700 ...
Venue ... Nx 10 ...
Person/people invited HP, Ld Pres, Ld Chancellor
P/Dev, P/Eur, Min Trans, AG, RTA,
P/Wales, Ld advocate, FCS
Added Ministerial attendance

Briefing

- a) I have commissioned briefing from
- ✓ b) Could you arrange ~~briefing~~ if necessary

Caroline Ryder