

MR. WICKS ✓

MR. FLESHER

MR. INGHAM

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

DISCLOSURE OF THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL'S LETTER

I attach a list of the main questions which arose in the House yesterday, to which the Prime Minister will need to provide replies in her speech in the debate on Monday. We should need the help of the Department of Trade and Industry with questions 13 and 14 in particular.

CDP

24 January, 1986.

JD3AIB

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED

1. Why was the Prime Minister not consulted before her office agreed to disclosure of the Solicitor-General's letter?
2. Where was the Prime Minister on that day and what was she doing?
3. When was the Prime Minister informed of the leak?
4. When was the Prime Minister informed of her office's involvement?
5. Why did the Prime Minister not inform the House as soon as she knew of her office's involvement?
6. Will she tell the House the exact extent of her office's involvement?
7. Will she release the report of the Enquiry?
8. Why did the Trade and Industry Secretary not tell the House last week that he had authorised the disclosure?
9. Why was an enquiry held when everyone knew what had happened anyway?
10. Why was an attempt made through a leak to subvert another member of the Government?
11. Why was the Solicitor-General not told of the intention to make public the fact of his letter and its conclusions?
12. Why did the Government not make a statement instead?
13. Why was more urgent action not taken to correct the inaccuracies in the Defence Secretary's letter, which was issued on 3 January?

14. Why has the Government not offered any correction or amendment to Mr. Heseltine's letter?

15. Why does the Government not publish the text of Mr. Heseltine's reply to the Solicitor-General?

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