

Prime Minister

Ref. A085/3315

MR WICKS

My minute of 4 October 1985 (Ref. A085/2546) recorded the state of play on the Attorney General's injunction in the High Court of New South Wales to prevent the publication of the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright.

2. The Treasury Solicitor has informed me that Mr Wright's publishers, Heinemann, have now informed him that they will submit to the injunction and do not propose to challenge it in the courts (either here or in New South Wales). They say that they have already spent £100,000 on the matter, and it is not worth spending any more.

3. They have said, however, that they do not know whether they can carry Mr Wright with them in this course. There is in fact some reason to think that Mr Wright may also be in touch with an American publisher; and I should not be wholly surprised if Heinemann themselves had put Mr Wright in touch with such a publisher, though there are other people (including Mr Chapman Pincher) who might have done so.

4. If an American publisher did agree to take this on, I am afraid that we should be very much less likely to succeed with an injunction in the United States than in Australia or the United Kingdom.

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

19 December 1985

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CHARMAN PINCHER

