

Ref. A084/2500

MR INGHAM

c Mr Butler

MIO

Thank you for your minute of 17 September.

2. As I told you, I was content that you should take the line you proposed at yesterday's meeting of MIO.
3. As to whether to have a leak inquiry, there seem to me to be two arguments against:
 - (1) This was an "embarrassment" leak rather than a "security" leak.
 - (2) It was clearly an oral leak, and the chances of tracking it down look pretty remote.
4. On the other hand, the institution of an inquiry might have some deterrent effect for the future; I can see that in certain circumstances you might want to say that an inquiry had been instituted, even if it was thought unlikely that there could be a positive result.
5. It might be possible to "set a trap", as you suggest; but that would need very careful handling: it would not necessarily be successful, and it could explode in one's face.

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ROBERT ARMSTRONG

18 September 1984

7. Butler

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for leak file

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Ref. A084/2527

MR INGHAM

MIO

— Thank you for your minute of 18 September.

2. I agree that we should proceed as you propose in the last paragraph of your minute. I am asking Mr Davie to put you in touch with one of our investigators, so that he can consider whether there is a prima facie case for mounting a full-scale investigation.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

21 September 1984

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