

SECRET

PERSONAL

File

CABINET OFFICE

A Ref. A01657

18 APR 1972

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY

FILE INSTRUCTIONS

FILE No.

At the Ministerial meeting on industrial policy on 12th April (GEN 92(72) 1st Meeting) the Prime Minister said that he was arranging for separate consideration to be given to the question of subversive activity in society. He would like to discuss this initially in a restricted group; and he would be grateful if you could attend a meeting for this purpose at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 19th April.

I enclose as a basis for the discussion a memorandum which was prepared by the Security Service a short time ago about subversion with particular reference to industry, education and the communications media. The Prime Minister would be glad if you would regard this as for your personal information.

I am sending copies of this minute and the attached memorandum to the Secretary of State for Defence, the Lord President and the Secretary of State for Employment, who are also invited to the meeting; and I am sending copies of the minute only to Mr. Robert Armstrong and the Home Secretary's Private Secretary, since the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary already have copies of the memorandum.

BURICE TEND

17th April, 1972

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(i) To collect and consider the assessments of the Security Service, and other Departments where appropriate, ¹and all internal subversion (whether initiated within the United Kingdom, or directed from abroad), so as to maintain a regular and comprehensive review of all the evidence (from both official and public sources) it is possible to obtain, thereby acting as a central monitoring unit.

(ii) To consider whether the methods of gathering evidence by the Departments concerned under (i) may be improved, and to take steps, under Ministerial direction, to ensure that they are.

(iii) To submit reviews regularly to Ministers (and ad hoc when the occasion demands); and to advise Ministers by what means the information secured may best be disseminated to Departments, and publicly, and what counter intelligence work should be undertaken, and what other action taken, in the light of this information.