Ref: A083/0195

PRIME MINISTER

Copy No. / of 3 copies

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL

1 remember

It is prime Minister

I think you will

remember this case. The last

sentence provides the che if you

do not.

FERB

At my meeting with you on 14th January I mentioned to you the details of a security case involving

I said

that decisions still remain to be taken as to how the man in question should be dealt with, in the light of his confession.

2. It is clear that, if he were to be simply released, there is a high probability that he would defect. This could be disadvantageous to us, if he was then exploited by his Russian masters for publicity purposes, and it would be difficult to explain to his own authorities why we had released him without telling them anything. It has now been decided that it is not really practicable to allow him to return home and use him as an agent there: he would believe that he might be exposed at any time, and his discretion would remain a continuing risk. It has therefore been decided to return him to his place of origin "under control"; advance warning is being given to the authorities in the country concerned.

THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Approved by
Robert Armstrong
and upud is his abrene.

19th January 1983

21.1.83 DR.



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

The Prime Minister has seen and noted your minute of 19 January (A083/0195) about a security case which you mentioned to her.

FE.R.B

20 January 1983

CONFIDENTIAL

AX