



Prime Minister

Ref. A085/983

MR BUTLER

Top Salaries Review Body

Para. 2 is wholly
good in my view.
Content with the way this
is going?

FERB

29.3.

As you know, the report of the Top Salaries Review Body is unlikely to be ready before the end of May.

2. Lord Plowden told me that the Review Body was unlikely to find in favour of job weighting for Permanent Secretaries. He was, however, most impressed with the need to introduce a greater degree of flexibility in the open structure and was looking at ideas for range pay, with some form of increments based on job weighting and individual performance. He was conscious of the need to limit the cost of any such scheme and had various ideas for its gradual implementation over a period of years.

3. Lord Plowden said that, when the Prime Minister came to have dinner with him and his group on 23 April, he would probably be suggesting to her that before the TSRB report was submitted he would like to come and see her privately, to explain to her some of the background to the report and some of the results of their inquiries which he has found very disturbing. He would wish this to be a private meeting, without other Ministers present, though he said that he thought it would be a good thing if I were present, so as to hear (as official Head of the Civil Service) what he had to say to the Prime Minister.

4. No decision is required on this at present and no date needs to be fixed; but the Prime Minister will wish to know what is in the offing.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

29 March 1985

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File



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

TOP SALARIES REVIEW BODY

Thank you for your minute of 29 March (A085/983), of which the Prime Minister has noted the contents.

B. R. BUTLER

1 April 1985

3M