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QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

8 October 1984

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TIME LIMITS ON CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Following the meeting of H Committee on Friday, the Attorney General and I have now had a further opportunity to discuss the question of whether the Prosecution of Offences Bill should be used as the vehicle for the proposed legislation on time limits. We now both agree that it should be and we will be considering together, as agreed by the Committee, how to frame the exemptions to time limits in such a way as to ensure that major criminals do not escape justice.

I will, therefore, be making it clear tomorrow that the legislation will be incorporated in the Prosecution of Offences Bill.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister, members of H Committee, the Attorney General and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

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The Rt Hon The Viscount Whitelaw, CH., MC.

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Sentencing Policy