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15 PM*

CCB

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My ref: B/PSO/10270/86
Your ref:

16 January 1986

Dear Mark,

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL'S FINAL REPORT

Thank you for sending Robin Young and Phil Dykins a copy of your letter of 13 January to William Fittall. I have now also seen your letter of 15 January to William.

In the light of William's letter of 14 January to you, Mr Baker and Mr Tracey consider that the Home Secretary's draft statement covers the Prime Minister's and their concerns about the balance of the statement and the affirmation of Mr Justice Popplewell's recommendations on membership cards.

The Report's recommendations on membership cards and its concerns about "new hooligans", which the Prime Minister has noted as particularly important, will be taken on board at the next meeting (12 February) of Mr Tracey's Working Group on measures to combat hooliganism. (A meeting of the Finance Working Group is also scheduled for February).

As the Working Group meeting is near, the Prime Minister may decide a No 10 meeting is not needed. Regarding her own intervention, we would advise that there is a leadership vacuum in the Football League at present. Restructuring of the League - leading, inevitably to a New President - will take place in March. We may be better able to pursue our concerns about progress on membership cards with a new regime. My Secretary of State and Mr Tracey would be happy to report on developments after the February meetings.

Yours ever.

BH Leonard.

B H LEONARD
Private Secretary

Mark Addison Esq

HOME AFFAIRS: Football Hooliganism: Pt 5

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