

Recommendations

- (1) That the Minister's views be sought as to whether he would be prepared to hold a regular press conference, perhaps once a month.
- (2) The institution of regular press briefings, perhaps once a week by the Press Office. The terms of reference and delimitation of the scope of these briefings should have ministerial approval.
- (3) The recognition of the function of the Head of the Press Office as an authorized "spokesman".
- (4) The continuation and extension of the confidential, background briefings, "not for attribution or immediate use", by senior departmental officers.
- (5) Further attention to systematic liaison on press matters with other Government Departments, particularly the Prime Minister's Office.
- (6) That steps be taken to have the departmental Press Office recognized as the responsible agency in the Government responsible for the planning, co-ordination and execution of arrangements for press, broadcast media and photographers covering V.I.P. visits from abroad. That such responsibility should embrace Royal visits and visits of Heads of State as well as other distinguished guests (7.(b)).