

000508

STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop DATE: 29 June 1994
FROM: Colin Fletcher CC: John Yates
Andrew Purkis

PETER BALL

John Yates asked Andrew and I to look into this following your memo of 18 June.

I have looked at the past correspondence - and also at the letters that have come in since you left for Canada.

Our comments in response to the points raised by Peter are as follows:-

1. *Did you say he could start in the Spring?* No, you did not - but both Michael and Peter wanted to see it that way. There was, moreover, enough room for them to make this misinterpretation given your warm affirmations of Peter and his ministry, coupled with what they see as being included in the category of personal and private. (see letters F and G)
2. *Angela* - JY writes: "My reading of her February letter is that after she refers to Peter's ministry to those who 'come to him', she says quite clearly that she does not recommend any further ministry at the present time. Looking to the future she certainly hopes for more and invites the Archbishop to make suggestions. We should not quote her exact words to Peter since her letter to you and clearly labelled 'personal and private'. It is difficult to believe that Peter has access to her letter, therefore; on the other hand I can see that the text is not crystal clear and could yield to a less restrictive interpretation than that which I have given it."
(see letter L)
3. *Andrew and Retreat Work* - AP writes: "I was trying to help Peter identify some quiet and private forms of contribution which, however humble, could be a start and get him out of total preoccupation with himself. I mentioned work in retreats as the kind of work where his might be possible, and preferable to any public form of ministry. This fell well short of 'telling him' to develop this, or of implying that all retreats would be equally suitable! It was all about finding something both useful and quiet and private."
4. *Prison* - AP writes: " On prison work, I consulted a Christian prison governor. He thought some sort of quiet, low level prison visiting might be a possibility and he offered to speak candidly to a friend, the Governor of Dartmoor, to explain the background and see if he would be willing, and thought it would be worthwhile, to have a quiet discussion with Peter of an exploratory kind if Peter wanted one. The

LAMBETH PALACE

ACE000839_001

- iv) Finally, and this is very much a personal observation, I was left feeling angry after reading the correspondence. Peter is manipulative, status-ridden and hypocritical (about money and obedience) and has put an intolerable burden on you. I see no evidence that his therapy is helping him address these issues in his life - if anything he is getting worse. If he is as spiritually sick as I suspect then I think he needs considerable counsel before he can be of help to others, and I am worried about the way in which he and Michael present him as being a man currently able to give wise spiritual counsel.

DPA

000511