

## MEMORANDUM

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28/12 19...

1992

Lambeth Palace,  
[REDACTED]

To

ABC

Peter Ball - for reflection over Christmas

- If no more evidence is brought to the Police, the prospect of a prosecution may be receding. (But there are several worrying letters in which we await Frank Rossini's advice).
- The police seemed to be hinting yesterday that the CPS may suggest that they do not prosecute "in the public interest" but that Peter's resignation would help them to come to that decision. If so, he should not resign until the CPS approach us, for we should then "lose our bargaining counter."

Neil Dodd's mother is said by the police to be implacable in her enmity to the Church over the affair. Not that she demands prosecution, but that Peter should be seen to be "punished" somehow.

If there is no prosecution, we need to ask whether the stories about these young men, which they or others could at any time offer to the media, would represent a sword of Damocles over Peter's continuing ministry as a diocesan bishop. If so, perhaps he should resign sooner rather than later.

According to the Archdeacon of Exeter, Peter has a notion of returning to the diocese if possible, but for no more than a year. When both

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Bishop at Lambeth  
The Right Reverend John Yates

Lambeth Palace  
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order if this is practical, or fair to the  
Diocese. And would he be too vulnerable to  
'trial by media' if someone went to the  
papers with their story?

There may be little you can do until we know  
the results of the Police / CPS enquiry, and it  
is likely that CPS will contact us in due course.

Meanwhile, possible action for your own enquiry.

- 1) See or get information for the parish priest  
where Neil lives in Northampton. We need  
to show a care for him
- 2) Confer with the Gloucester Diocesan Staff  
on the prospects for the Diocese if Peter  
does / does not return soon.
- 3) Possible see, or get someone else to see, the  
men who have written their accounts of  
"incriminating" accidents with Peter in the  
past, with the aim of assessing the truth  
of their accounts, and whether they would  
go to the press etc. etc.

DPA