

COMMONWEALTH AIRCRAFT CORPORATION PTY. LTD.

MEMORANDUM FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

HAWKER SIDDELEY PROPOSALS.

Mr. Brian Lewis representing the Hawker Siddeley group in England, has been in communication with the Syndicate and later with the Company for some nine months. His group made proposals for co-operation with the local company and these proposals were handed to the Commission which was sent abroad.

The Commission interviewed the group including Mr. T.O.M. Sopwith and Sir John Siddeley and visited the many factories and establishments controlled by the group.

After taking into consideration all the aspects of the proposal the Commission could not see its way clear to recommend the taking up of any of the Hawker Siddeley products.

Furthermore, the firm opinion is held that the Company should refrain from making any permanent tie up with any large overseas group, and so leave the way open to take up the best products at any time irrespective of country of origin or individual firms.

It is recommended that Mr. Brian Lewis be written to and informed that the Company does not propose to accept the proposal of Hawker Siddeley as submitted but will be interested to keep in constant touch re technical developments and may at (some future) date be desirous of taking up a manufacturing license for some product of the group.

If the Company is required to manufacture any producers under British licenses it is most probable to be that of the Bristol Coy. and the De Havilland Coy., which are not in the Hawker Siddeley group.

MELBOURNE.

17/11/36.

LJW[†]Mn