

13th November, 1936.

Dear Mr. Brian Lewis,

Mr. Lewis has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 6th November and say that the matter will come before the next meeting of the Board of Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



Brian Lewis Esq.,
20 Olola Avenue,
VAUCLUSE.
Sydney. N.S.W.

FU 6842

20 OLOLA AVENUE,
VAUCLUSE,
SYDNEY.

6th November, 1936

*Mr Mitchell
please call a name
from my
usual B.P.
C.A.C.*

Essington Lewis Esq.,
The Broken Hill Proprietary Co., Ltd.,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Essington Lewis,

Thank you very much for your letter of 23rd October. It was very kind of you to write, and I must apologise for delaying a reply, but I have been away from Sydney for a short while.

I was very glad to learn that no definite decisions had yet been reached, and I can well understand that there are many more immediate matters requiring attention, before the questions of co-operation and types etc. can be considered. From all reports, the new Company must be experiencing many difficulties, and the task is not made easier by the attitude of the Premier of Victoria. One can but hope, he will adopt a more reasonable point of view, and that these immediate difficulties will be speedily overcome.

I should like to refer you to the letters exchanged earlier in the year, and would confirm that I shall be very willing to render the Company any assistance I can, and should the Board so wish, to place my services at their disposal in an executive capacity.

With kindest regards and wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Brian Lewis

23rd October, 1936.

Brian Lewis, Esq.,
20 Olola Avenue,
Vaucluse,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Brian Lewis,

I thank you for your letter of the 21st October.

The registration of the Company, as you state, has only just been completed, and it is too early yet for any definite decision to be given regarding the matter of Hawker Siddeley. As a matter of fact, this point has not yet been considered.

I am, however, passing a copy of your letter over to Mr. Mitchell, so that it can be put before the meeting of the Board of the new Company, which is to be held some time in the near future, and doubtless if anything eventuates he will immediately let you know.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

S. L.

SL

Telephone F.U.6842.

20 OLOLA AVENUE,
VAUCLUSE,
SYDNEY.

21st October, 1936

Essington Lewis Esq.,
Messrs. The Broken Hill Proprietary Co., Ltd.
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Essington Lewis,

I was very glad to learn from the press that the initial difficulties confronting your Syndicate had been overcome, and I should like to offer my congratulations and wishes on the registration of the Commonwealth Aircraft Proprietary Limited.

In the absence of any information, I have naturally wondered what developments were taking place and whether, ultimately, the proposals presented on behalf of Hawker Siddeley, were likely to commend themselves to you and your colleagues, and form the basis for future negotiations.

Registration of the Company, having only just been completed, it appears clear that it may still be too early for any definite decision in the matter. Nevertheless, do you think it possible to give some idea as to the outcome of the representations made during the past few months.

I should much appreciate some indication, not only on behalf of the Group, but also on personal grounds, as I have followed developments with the keenest interest, and look forward to some measure of success.

With kindest regards and wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Richard

17 SUTHERLAND CRESCENT
DARLING POINT
Sydney.

20th August 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.,
Messrs. The Broken Hill Proprietary Co., Ltd.,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

I wrote to you on the 10th instant,
but I fear that either my letter or your reply
has been lost in transit. In case this is so,
I enclose a copy, and would welcome any inform-
ation you can give which I could pass on to
London. .

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

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10th August, 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.,
Messrs. The Broken Hill Proprietary Co., Ltd.,
MELBOURNE.

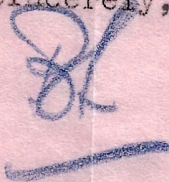
Dear Mr. Mitchell,

From the announcements made by the Minister of Defence, I understand that the Commission have now submitted to your Syndicate the report on their recent investigations overseas.

I appreciate it is rather early for any definite decisions in the matter, but could you possibly indicate whether Hawker-Siddeley's proposals are regarded favourably. I do not wish to trouble you unnecessarily, but I am anxious to keep London in close touch with developments, and it would be helpful to know if I can look forward to commencing negotiations in Melbourne shortly.

With kindest wishes, and my regards to Mr. Essington Lewis,

Yours sincerely,



17 SUTHERLAND CRESCENT
DARLING POINT

10th August, 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.,
Messrs. The Broken Hill Proprietary Co., Ltd.,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

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I appreciate it is rather early for any definite decisions in the matter, but could you possibly indicate whether Hawker-Siddeley's proposals are regarded favourably. I do not wish to trouble you unnecessarily, but I am anxious to keep London in close touch with developments, and it would be helpful to know if I can look forward to commencing negotiations in Melbourne shortly.

With kindest wishes, and my regards
to Mr. Essington Lewis,

Yours sincerely,

Quaintance

17, Sutherland Crescent,
Darling Point,
Sydney.

4th July 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.,
The Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd.,
Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

Thank you very much for your
letter of your letter of 1st July.

I was very glad to learn that
you were expecting the Commission back early
this month, and hope I can look forward to
hearing from you, after their report has been
considered by your Syndicate.

With kindest wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Duan Lewis

e/o
1st July, 1936.

Brian Lewis Esq.,
17 Sutherland Crescent,
Darling Point,
Sydney. N.S.W.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of 27th June addressed to Mr. Lewis has come safely to hand and Mr. Lewis has asked me to thank you for it and to say it will be communicated to the members of the Syndicate and that when matters come up for consideration the advice you have received from Hawker-Siddeley will be borne in mind.

We do not expect to do very much in connection with the matter until the return of our Commission to Australia - it is expected that these men will reach Sydney early in July and we should have the result of their investigation very shortly after their arrival.

with kind regards

Yours sincerely,

W. E.

For and on behalf of the Syndicate

FM'Mn

In Mitchell

17, Sutherland Crescent,
Darling Point,
Sydney.

27th June 1936.

Essington Lewis Esq.,
Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Essington Lewis,

I was very glad to read the Prime Minister's announcement last week and learn that the Syndicate had been officially invited to establish the Aircraft industry in Australia.

During my last visit to Melbourne, Mr. Mitchell mentioned that all press comments should be regarded with reserve, but an article appeared in the "Melbourne Herald" on the 19th inst. which if authentic is of particular interest to Hawker-Siddeley. In the article, Mr. J. M. McKenzie, the acting Managing Director of General Motors-Holden, is reported to have said:-

"that he had no idea how many, if any, technical experts would be brought to Australia to launch the industry. He could only point out that there were not many high-skilled aero engineers in Australia!"

There were further comments and later the following passage appeared:-

"A research and design staff is visualised as one of the early needs of the new industry, and for this, as well as for the production side, key men may have to be brought from abroad. Australians will be trained in specialised tasks by these men!"

Possibly you have seen the article. If it represents the actual position and the views of your Syndicate, I would like to draw your special attention to Hawker-Siddeley's proposals and particularly Nos. 5 & 6, in which all facilities and assistance are offered in providing technical and practical personnel for Aircraft and Engines as may be required,

Hawker-Siddeley have asked me to advise you that, provided a close liason is established with your prospective company, they will always be pleased to negotiate on behalf of the company for any other types of military or civil aircraft as may be required.

They also want you to know that their civil activities, while not as extensive as their military, are now of considerable magnitude, and they are in a position to offer types for practically every need.

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of the latest R.U.S.I Journal, which I believe will be of interest to you. The lecture by Sir Cyril Newall is very interesting and outlines the difficulties experienced in meeting the recent substantial increases in the R.A.F - difficulties which may have their counterpart here.

Presumably Wing-Commander Wackett is returning at the end of next month or early in August. I sincerely hope his recommendations will be favourable, and that I can look forward to visiting Melbourne again and see you.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,


2nd May, 1936.

Brian Lewis, Esq.,
17 Sutherland Crescent,
DARLING POINT. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Brian Lewis,

Many thanks for your letter of the 27th ult.,
from which I was very interested to learn that your
Principals have interviewed Wing Commander Wackett and
Sq. Leaders Harrison and Murphy.

Yours faithfully,



For and on behalf of the Syndicate.

FM:KE

1st May, 1936.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.

M. L. Shepherd Esq.,
Secretary for Defence,
Defence Department,
Victoria Barracks,
St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Shepherd,

For your information I enclose copy
of letter dated 11th March received from Mr. Brian
Lewis, together with the memorandum referred to therein.

Yours faithfully,

Enc. Copy of letter
and memorandum.

17 SUTHERLAND CRESCENT
DARLING POINT

27th April, 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.
MELBOURNE.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

Hawker Siddeley have just advised me that they interviewed Wing-Commander Wackett and Squadron Leaders Harrison and Murphy early this month.

The proposals were discussed and a visit was made to the Kingston-on-Thames factory. A further meeting has been arranged to take place in a few weeks time.

It was felt that their meeting was satisfactory in every respect, but Hawker Siddeley quite appreciate that no definite action will be taken until Wing-Commander Wackett reports on his return to Australia.

I feel that the foregoing will be of interest to you.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

James Lord

6th April, 1936.

Brian Lewis Esq.,
17 Sutherland Crescent,
DARLING POINT.
Sydney. N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your
letter of 28th ultimo, contents of which are noted,
and I thank you for advising me what you have done.

Yours faithfully,

Lu

2nd April, 1936.

Brian Lewis, Esq.,
17 Sutherland Crescent,
Darling Point,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Brian Lewis,

I have safely received your letter of the 28th March, and with regard to the concluding paragraph, it will, of course, give me pleasure, when the Committee wishes to discuss the Hawker-Siddeley proposals further, to communicate with you.

Yours sincerely,

lll

LB:SM:KE

*In Mitchell
ack a thank
for the money
for the security*

17, Sutherland Crescent,

Darling Point,

Sydney.

28th March 1936.

Essington Lewis Esq.,
Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Essington Lewis,

I interviewed Mr. Parkhill in Canberra yesterday and gave him a copy of the Hawker-Siddeley proposals. He was very pleased to receive them and know that they had been favourably welcomed by the members of your Syndicate.

He confirmed that he hoped shortly to make a statement in the House regarding the manufacture of Aircraft in Australia, but he was awaiting further information from the Dominion Office before doing so. He indicated that unless he received definite information in the near future, he would probably make his statement without it.

May I again thank you for the cordial reception given to the proposals, which I hope will lead to a permanent understanding between Hawker-Siddeley and your prospective company.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Essington Lewis.

17, Sutherland Crescent,
Darling Point,
Sydney.

28th March 1936.

F. Mitchell Esq.,
Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

Thank you very much for all the kind consideration and help you gave me during my recent visit to Melbourne.

As mentioned in my letter to Mr. Essington Lewis, I gave a copy of the Hawker-Siddeley proposals to Mr. Parkhill, and he was very pleased indeed to receive them. I conveyed the message suggested by the Syndicate members.

I appreciate I made a rather comprehensive request when asking if you would advise of any developments that may take place. If, however, Wing Commander Wackett should, prior to his return, make any recommendations which would make it possible to discuss the proposals before August, would you be good enough to let me know.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Simon Lewis