

With that point in mind, let me take a moment to salute three enforcement colleagues on this Isle with whom the FTC has worked closely to create and maintain harmonious relations. First, Paul Geroski, whose recent passing is a loss not only to the United Kingdom, but to the whole competition community. I would like to add my condolences to those expressed by my Chairman, Deborah Majoras, when she was here in London last month to participate in the Competition and Consumer Day program. Second, Sir John Vickers, who recently concluded his tenure as Chair of the OFT, during which he contributed in numerous ways to transatlantic convergence in competition policy and enforcement and provided support and leadership to the International Competition Network. We are grateful for his intellectual contributions to the debates over competition policy as well as his support for cooperation among the agencies. And, third, John Fingleton, who has brought his intellect and energy from Ireland to the OFT. Like John Vickers, John Fingleton has also contributed to transatlantic convergence and to the development of the ICN as an effective force for further convergence of competition policy around the world. We in the United States will miss Paul, but look forward to continued contributions from John Vickers and John Fingleton in their new roles.

The communication and cooperation that we in the United States have enjoyed in working with these three gentlemen and with their European competition enforcement colleagues, is in marked contrast to the relations that existed between the United States and Europe - and, in particular, the United Kingdom - just twenty years ago. The uranium cartel and Freddie Laker cases brought the United States and the United Kingdom into conflict over

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2003/l_001/l_00120030104en00010025.pdf.

