

PRIME MINISTER

Attached is a piece of Questions briefing about a delay in the delivery of the Atlantic Conveyor replacement. You will recall that in order to keep this contract in the United Kingdom Government assistance of almost £18 million had to be given. The projected delivery date is now four months overdue and the cost over-run might be as high as £14.5 million. The Chairman of Trafalgar House, Nigel Broackes, has said that the original contract date in August had been guaranteed by British Shipbuilders, the TUC and British Steel. Another poor advertisement for the shipbuilding industry.

TIM FLESHER

20 January, 1984