

2/4/4



CC/OL

Prime Minister (2)

To note

AT

26/3

PRIME MINISTERREVIEW OF HIGH ENERGY PARTICLE PHYSICS

The Secretary of State for Education and Science copied to me his minute of 5th March and I have seen the subsequent correspondence.

2. I was content with what he proposed. I should I think comment on the comparison made by both the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Secretary of State for Education and Science between the £28-30 million contribution to CERN and my Department's net expenditure of £1840 million on research and development in 1982/83. This does not compare like with like. Defence expenditure on research in 1982/83 amounted to some £300 million, of which 42% was spent in industry and the universities. This itself is a sizeable sum but it does put the CERN contribution of £28-30 million in a different light.

3. The expenditure on development, some £1500 million, was directed at the procurement of specific defence equipments, aircraft, warships, weapons, etc, from industry. This is an entirely different activity from fundamental research.

But it is a very large sum

4. Copies go to Cabinet colleagues and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

WJH
Ministry of Defence
26th March 1984

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26 MAR 1984



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File

MJ



10 DOWNING STREET

cc Oliver Letwin
+ FCO
DES
HMT
CO

From the Private Secretary

27 March 1984

Dear Richard.

Review of High Energy Particle Physics

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 26 March. She recognises the distinction he is making between fundamental research and expenditure on development. She has commented, however, that expenditure on the latter of some £1,500m. is a very large sum.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Elizabeth Hodgkinson (Department of Education and Science), David Peretz (HM Treasury) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely

Andrew Turnbull

ANDREW TURNBULL

Richard Mottram Esq
Ministry of Defence.

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SLH