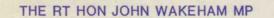
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Prime Minister's meetings with the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (1984)

PRIME MINISTER

March 1990

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Department of Energy 1 Palace Street London SW1F 5HE

071 238 3149

Charles Powell Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1

Rear Charles

GLOBAL WARMING

// July 1990

un veered all I gather that when the Prime Minister met Dr Hans Blix on 19 June she asked how he calculated the amounts of CO2 which might be avoided by the use of nuclear power.

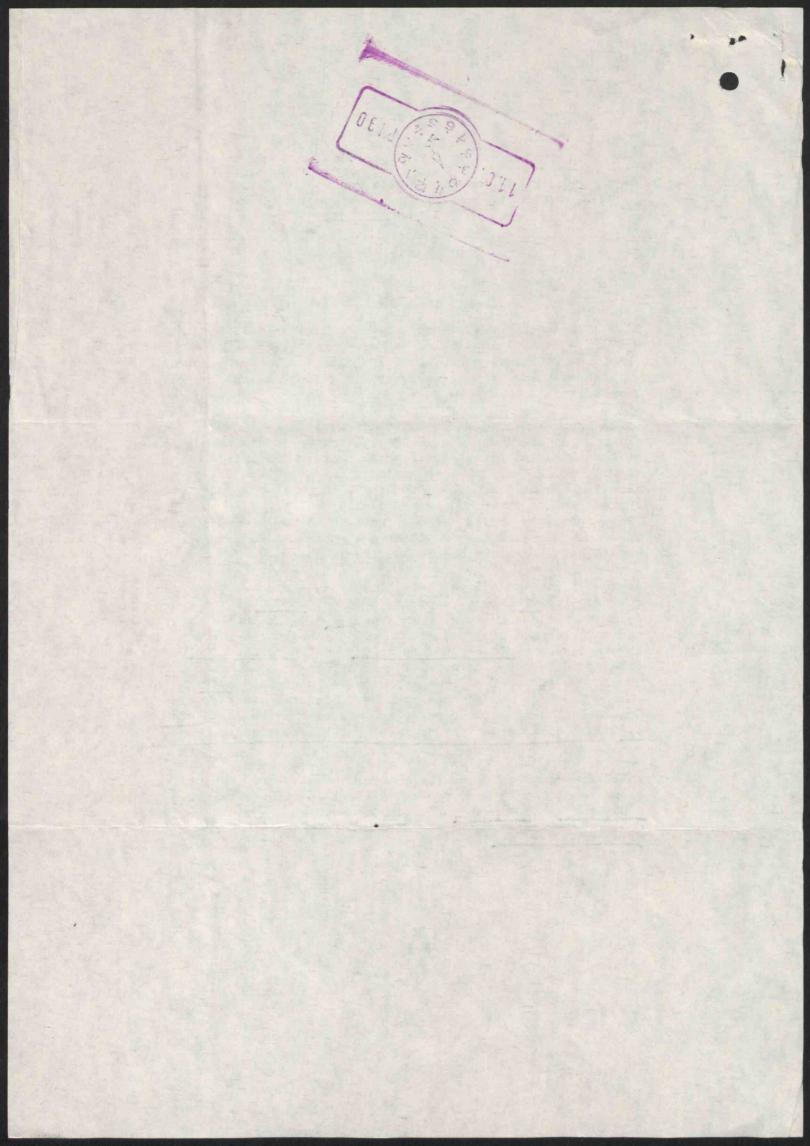
Dr Blix has now provided the attached short note, and asked us to forward it to the Prime Minister.

We have already sent a brief acknowledgement through the Mission in Vienna.

I am sending copies of the note to Stephen Wall (FCO) and Phillip Ward (DOE).

J S NEILSON Principal Private Secretary Note for Director General Blix concerning CO₂ emissions avoided through the use of nuclear power

- In 1989 nuclear power plants worldwide generated 1855 TWh(e), which was 17.5% of all electricity produced in the world. (Ref.: IAEA Reference Data Series #2, April 1990 Edition.) The economically closest competitive alternative would in most places be coal-fired generation.
- 2. To generate 1 TWh(e) in coal fired power plants requires some 0.39 million tonnes of coal (0.39 Mtce). The exact amounts depend on coal quality and plant efficiency but it is justified to use as a rule of thumb that 1 TWh(e) produced in coal-fired plants gives rise to emissions of 1 Mt CO₂ (often referred to as 0.27 Mt C using instead the amount of contained carbon). This would mean that 1855 TWh(e) produced in coal-fired plants would have added some 1850 Mt CO₂ or about 9% to the 20.000 Mt CO₂ estimated to be the current annual emissions from burning of fossil fuels.
- Present forecasts are that the global nuclear power generating capacity in 2010 would be of the order of 550 000 MW(e) which would maintain nuclear generation at about 17% of the total. If, however, the world's nuclear power plant production capacity were to be used to accelerate nuclear power introduction, 50 plants of 1000 MW(e) size could be put into operation each year from 2000 to 2010 and about 930 000 MW(e) nuclear capacity could produce 6000 TWh(e) in 2010. The same amount generated in coal fired plants would give CO₂ emissions of 6000 Mt per year. (Note that in both 1984 and 1985 33 nuclear power plants were actually put into operation in the world).
- 4. There are many scenarios for future CO₂ emissions. The reference scenario of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, (WG3), is 9000 Mt C or 33 000 Mt CO₂ in 2010. 6000 Mt CO₂ would be 18% of the total emissions.



CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

19 June 1990

Dear. John.

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA)

The Prime Minister had a talk this morning with the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Mr. Gerald Clarke, United Kingdom Permanent Representative in Vienna, was also present.

Dr. Blix expressed appreciation for the Prime Minister's consistent championing of the environmental benefits of nuclear power. The Prime Minister said she was always irritated that those who claim to be greenest were also the most anti-nuclear.

Dr. Blix referred to his visit the previous day to Sellafield. He observed that the cost of disposal of nuclear waste was not catastrophic, nor was it technically difficult. The Prime Minister said that the decommissioning of complete nuclear power plants was very expensive.

Dr. Blix said that the IAEA saw its main task as helping governments to achieve the best possible operational safety in their nuclear power plants. The Agency had taken a number of additional measures since 1986 for this purpose. In the course of these activities he had himself visited reactors in the Soviet Union, and the IAEA was involved in a scheme of up-grading nuclear power plants in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The problems there were not so much technical as managerial. The command system encouraged people to pass responsibility up the line, with the result that there was no one person with clear responsibility for the management of an individual plant.

The Prime Minister asked about fast-breeder reactors and in particular the French experience. Dr. Blix said the French had experienced some technical problems. But the main difficulty was economic. The decision to develop them had been based on the prediction that nuclear power would develop much faster than it had in practice and that the price of uranium would rise dramatically. These expectations had been confounded. But nonetheless he thought fast-breeder reactors were a good investment for the future. Both the Soviet Union and the Japanese had built them. He did not foresee any other major sources of energy in the future except nuclear power and fossil fuels. Renewable energy sources could meet only a tiny proportion of the world's needs. It was very regrettable that environmental ministers refused even to discuss nuclear power:

they lived in a dream world. The fact was that if the 450 or so nuclear power stations in the world were closed down and fossil fuels used instead to generate the same amount of electricity, emissions of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere would increase by nearly 10 per cent. It would be important in this context to encourage the Chinese to develop nuclear power to meet their energy needs, otherwise they would use coal and there would be a further massive increase in carbon dioxide reaching the atmosphere.

The Prime Minister expressed concern about nuclear proliferation and the likelihood that a number of countries might try to develop nuclear weapons. North Korea was a particular source of worry. Dr. Blix said that the IAEA had been negotiating a Safeguards Agreement with North Korea for some time, but the North Koreans had imposed two political conditions relating to US nuclear weapons in South Korea. There was nothing the IAEA could do about these. However, the North Koreans had recently asked to resume talks. He assumed that this was partly under pressure from the Russians. The Prime Minister referred to the case of Iraq. Dr. Blix said that the IAEA had not detected any evidence of diversion of material from reactors subject to safeguards. But they could not inspect the Iraqis' intentions. The Prime Minister asked about Libya. Dr. Blix said that the IAEA were inspecting what the Libyans had. Moving on to Pakistan, Dr. Blix said that the IAEA had no control over their enrichment capability, although they had inspected the research reactor in Karachi and not found any evidence of diversion. was personally sceptical whether Pakistan would detonate a nuclear device, since to do so would inevitably provoke the Indians into a further testing.

Dr. Blix said that the IAEA was, in conjunction with the WHO, carrying out a major investigation into the radiological levels in Ukraine and Belorussia following the Chernobyl disaster. This was a major task involving over 100 doctors, vets and radiological experts.

Dr. Blix concluded with a plea to governments to rely more on international institutions. They would increasingly become the mechanisms through which nations would act, and governments should ensure that they functioned well. We should constantly be looking for ways to use them better and should be ready to send some of our best civil servants and practitioners to staff them.

I am copying this letter to Phillip Ward (Department of the Environment), Richard Gozney (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

J. Neilson, Esq., Department of Energy PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH DR. BLIX, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Dr. Blix is to pay a brief courtesy call on you next Tuesday. I do not think you have met him before, although he is really quite important to us on a number of issues. He is Swedish by birth and a lawyer by profession, having served briefly as Foreign Minister in conservative-inclined governments in the late 1970s. He has been Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency since 1981 and was recently reappointed for a fourth term.

You will find in the folder a letter from the Department of Energy which suggests a number of tonics you could pursue with

You will find in the folder a letter from the Department of Energy which suggests a number of topics you could pursue with Dr. Blix. I am sure the problems of nuclear proliferation will be high on your list of concerns. You may also like to talk about the aftermath of Chernobyl and the Soviet performance in cleaning up. You will also want to touch on domestic nuclear issues, although there seems relatively little to say.

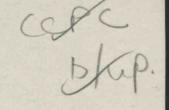
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CHARLES POWELL 15 June 1990

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CONFIDENTIAL WHERE SHOWN

THE RT HON JOHN WAKEHAM MP





Department of Energy 1 Palace Street London SW1E 5HE 071 238 3287

Dominic Morris Esq Private Secretary to the Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1A 2AA

SJune 1990

Dan Dominic

The Prime Minister will be meeting Dr Blix, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at 9.30 on Tuesday 19 June. A copy of Dr Blix's c.v. is enclosed.

You may care to consider briefing the Prime Minister on the following topics:

The Future of Nuclear Power in the UK

Dr Blix made clear at a recent meeting with officials that UK decisions on nuclear are being followed worldwide. The Prime Minister may therefore wish to make the following points:

The Government retains a strong commitment to diversity in fuel supplies and to maintaining security of supply; nuclear power will contribute substantially to these objectives for the foreseeable future; Nuclear Electric plc retains the ability to build new nuclear stations, but capital expenditure approval for stations beyond Sizewell B will not be considered by the Government before 1994, when the prospects for nuclear power will be reviewed.

IAEA and Global Warming

Dr Blix wrote to the Prime Minister in March 1989 seeking her support for an initiative in the Paris Economic Summit, designed to alert the world to the dangers of global warming. The Prime Minister responded in encouraging terms (copy of her letter of 26 April 1989 enclosed). Dr Blix has made a number of speeches, including at the British Nuclear Forum's Annual Conference last year, promoting the environmental advantages of nuclear. The IAEA has launched what we consider to be an over-ambitious programme on



comparative assessment of the different energy options. Our main objections rest on the use of scarce resources in an area where other organisations appear to have more claim to a lead. In addition the IAEA's objectivity is likely to be questioned. Dr Blix has seen the text of the Prime Minister's recent speech at the opening of the Hadley Centre on 25 May. The Prime Minister may wish to say that

International agreement is needed to tackle the problem of global warming; we hope for progress on this at the World Climate Conference in November; nuclear power has a contribution to make and is among the UK policies addressing the greenhouse issue.

IAEA Safeguards and Zero Real Growth in Agency Budgets

We regard the application of international_safeguards (as laid down in the Agency's Statute), designed to detect the diversion of material from civil to military use, as the cornerstone of the Agency's activities. Safeguards absorb a third of the Agency's budget. Although a number of efficiency improvements have been made, the Agency is now finding it increasingly difficult to live within the policy of "zero real growth" favoured by the majority of Member States. A particular difficulty is the desire of the developing Member States to see expenditure on the Agency's safeguards activities matched by an increase in promotional activities. Points which the Prime Minister might make include:

The United Kingdom has been a staunch supporter of the policy of zero real growth, nevertheless we recognise that the demands of the safeguards regime are increasing with more facilities/material coming under safeguards; is there any further scope for efficiency improvements; will the Agency be developing a systematic plan for the replacement of obsolete/outworn safeguards equipment in the context of their proposed medium term plan; how can we curb the demands of the developing Member States for any increase in safeguards to be matched by an increase in the Agency's promotional activities.

USSR and IAEA Nuclear Safety Initiatives

The IAEA has been engaged in a programme aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the measures taken in the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident. Representatives of the National Radiological Protection Board and Department of Health have been involved. We



are concerned at the reports which we have received from them about the inadequacy of the USSR performance in cleaning up. The Prime Minister may care to emphasise that:

- we expect the Agency to ensure that proper data based on scientific measurement of the residual radioactive contamination of the area is obtained and that there will be no cover-up. It would be damaging to the Agency if reassuring statements were made and later proved inaccurate.

The Agency has also been responsible for co-ordination arrangements in setting up the Chernobyl Research Centre which will provide facilities for visiting scientists to study the environmental and health effects of a major nuclear accident, and decontamination and rehabilitation of land. The UK has no fundamental objection to this but will not be participating actively in the work of the Centre for resource reasons.

Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference (NPTRC) - CONFIDENTIAL

The Fourth NPTRC will be held 20 August- 14 September. Depositary Power for the NPT, together with the US and USSR. An important subject is likely to be compliance by NPT parties with their Treaty obligations, in the light of the Iraqi capacitors affair and the failure by North Korea to conclude a safeguards agreement with the IAEA. The question of South Africa's accession to the NPT is also very much a live issue. Negotiations for the agreement between North Korea and the Agency, which should have been concluded in 1987, may now have broken down, with the North Koreans claiming that the stationing of US nuclear forces in South Korea is an impediment. The South Africans have informed the NPT depositary powers in confidence that they will accede to the Treaty if the Front Line States (FLS) make a commitment to do likewise; we have lobbied the FLS twice, in parallel with other depositary powers, and have received positive indications from all, although this has fallen short of the public commitment requested by the South Africans. The Prime Minister might make the following points:

- Interception of capacitors bound for Iraq demonstrates the need to ensure that nuclear export controls are adequate and that NPT parties honour their commitments;
- Failure by North Korea to conclude a safeguards agreement with the IAEA is reprehensible and fuels rumours of a nuclear weapons programme in North Korea. Stationing of US forces is not a valid reason for refusing to conclude a safeguards agreement; what are the prospects for further negotiations between the IAEA and North Korea?



Hope South Africa will accede to the NPT before the Review Conference; (in confidence) have asked FLS to make commitment to accede as requested by South Africa.

K R LOADER

Private Secretary

Suncarah

HANS BLIX

Hans Blix was born in 1928 in Uppsala. After taking his Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of Uppsala he studied at Cambridge University and at Columbia University in New York where he was also a research graduate. He received his PhD degree in Cambridge in 1958.

In 1959 he became Doctor of Laws at the Stockholm University and in 1960 was appointed associate professor in international law. During the period 1962-63 he was a consultant on international law at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

From 1963 to 1976 Hans Blix held the rank of Head of Department at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and served as Legal Adviser on International Law. In the autumn of 1976 he became Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in charge of international development co-operation. He was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in the minority Liberal Government which took over in October 1978. After the general elections in September 1979 he was again appointed Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in charge of international development co-operation.

Every year since 1961 he has been a member of Sweden's delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, and from 1962 to 1978 he was a member of the Swedish delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

His other official appointments include the chairmanship of the Swedish delegation to the United Nations Conference on Treaty Law in Vienna in 1968 and 1969. He was a delegate to the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972 and represented Sweden in negotiations concerning the Declaration on the Human Environment. He had also led the Swedish delegation at the Diplomatic Conference on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts in Geneva, 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1977. He is alternate governor for Sweden in the World Bank and governor for Sweden in the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank.

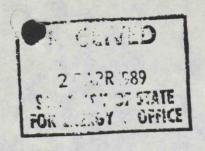
He was leader of the Liberal Campaign Committee in favour of retention of the Swedish nuclear energy programme in the referendum in 1980.

He has written several books on subjects associated with international law and constitutional law.

Hans Blix was reappointed to a third four-year term as Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency in 1989.

He is married to Eva Blix, nee Kettis. They have two children.

D7-BLIXCV





10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SWIA 2AA

MR. Guiners Mr. Marthet W. Martin Mr. Agrell Mr. Agrell AE 35/163/1

26 April, 1989.

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear In. Blise. No

have informed is on its way.

read your letter of 22 March with great interest. I certainly agree that the risk of global warming presents one of the greatest challenges facing mankind today. That is why we have put our weight behind the work of the InterGovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

One of the Panel's most important tasks is to assess possible strategies for limiting emissions of greenhouse gases. We strongly hope that this work will lead to full international agreement on the best solutions to this problem. Your paper makes a welcome and valuable contribution to thinking on the matter and I am sure that you will wish to consider how the IAEA can best contribute to the IPCC process.

The British Government remains firmly committed to the conclusions of the Tokyo Summit on nuclear power. We do moreover appreciate the extent to which nuclear power is already contributing to the limitation of greenhouse gas emissions. Whilst, as you say, nuclear power is not a complete answer to the problem it represents a much cleaner way of producing electricity than burning fossil fuels. That is one of the reasons why our arrangements for the privatisation of our electricity supply industry will oblige

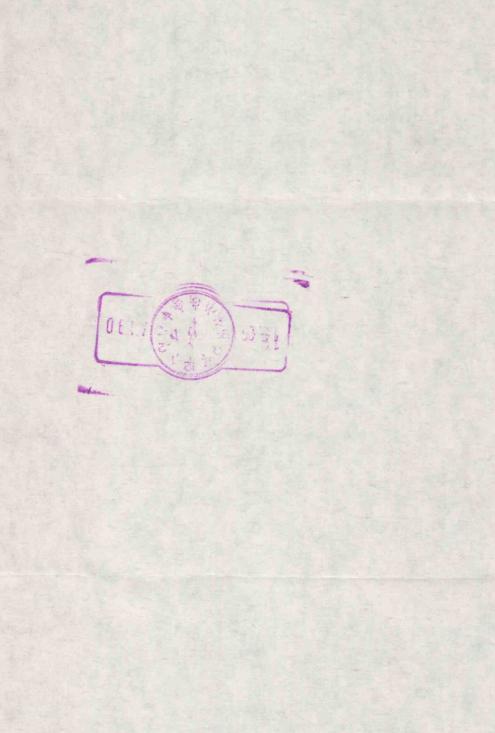
the distribution companies to purchase a specified minimum level of power from non-fossil fuel capacity. For the foreseeable future the bulk of that obligation is likely to be met by nuclear power.

-4-

It is certainly my view that leaders of the industrialised nations must give a firm lead if the people of the world are to understand the benefits to the global environment of increased use of nuclear power. I have every intention of pressing this point at the forthcoming Summit in Paris and I commend your initiative in bringing the matter so urgently to my notice.

Jours sviens

Aagantshaliter



THE RT HON JOHN WAKEHAM MP



Department of Energy 1 Palace Street London SW1E 5HE O1 238 3287

em

Charles Powell Esq Private Secretary to The Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1A 2AA

15 March 1990

Door Chaules

Thank you for your letter of 14 March.

We were pleased to hear that the Prime Minister is able to see Dr Blix during his forthcoming visit to the UK and 09.30 on Tuesday 19 June is most convenient. We will ensure that you receive appropriate briefing in good time for the meeting.

Yours sucarely

K R LOADER

Private Secretary

MJ



10 DOWNING STREET

ale

c. Loader

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

14 March 1990

You wrote to Dominic Morris on 12 March to ask whether the Prime Minister would see Dr Hans Blix, Director-General of the IAEA, during his visit to the United Kingdom in June. The Prime Minister could see him briefly at 0930 on Tuesday 19 June.

I am copying this letter to Richard Gozney (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Charles Powell

K.R. Loader, Esq.,
Department of Energy.



10 DOWNING STREET

Made Can you pid a time plank barler 0930 an 19 June AP 14/3

THE RT HON JOHN WAKEHAM MP



Department of Energy 1 Palace Street London SW1E 5HE 01 238 3287

Dominic Morris Esq Private Secretary to The Prime Minister 10 Downing Street LONDON SW1A 2AA Agree in principle to see him is we can find diany opace?

12 March 1990 13/3

Tes mo

Done Donnie

The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Dr Hans Blix, will be visiting the United Kingdom in the week beginning 17 June at the invitation of the Government. The visit attracts Category 1 status and Dr Blix will be in London from 19 June.

During his visit, Dr Blix will be meeting Ministers in this Department and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and my Secretary of State will be hosting a dinner at Lancaster House on 21 June. However, a meeting with the Prime Minister would undoubtedly provide the high point of the visit should this be possible.

The IAEA is among the better run of the UN specialised agencies and Dr Blix was re-appointed to a third term as Director General, with UK support, from last November. We regard the IAEA's role in promoting public confidence in nuclear power through its safety and safeguards activities as crucial to the decisions on the future of nuclear which will need to be taken post-1994. Dr Blix was naturally disappointed at the statement which my Secretary of State made in November and he will welcome reassurance at first hand that the Government sees a continuing role for nuclear.

You may recall that the Prime Minister warmly welcomed Dr Blix's initiative on global warming last spring, suggesting that the



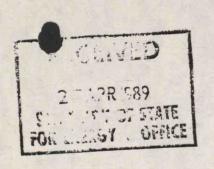
Paris Summit should focus on this issue. I enclose a copy of the Prime Minister's response.

A programme for Dr Blix's visit is now being developed and I enclose a copy of the position so far. I should be glad to know whether the Prime Minister would be willing to see Dr Blix and whether a short meeting could be fitted into her diary.

I am copying this letter to Richard Gozney in the Foreign Secretary's office.

Yours sucardy

K R LOADER
Private Secretary





10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SWIA 2AA

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THE PRIME MINISTER

26 April, 1989.

Dear M. Blise.

Mr. Herine 28/4

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the distribution companies to purchase a specified minimum level of power from non-fossil fuel capacity. For the foreseeable future the bulk of that obligation is likely to be met by nuclear power.

It is certainly my view that leaders of the industrialised nations must give a firm lead if the people of the world are to understand the benefits to the global environment of increased use of nuclear power. I have every intention of pressing this point at the forthcoming Summit in Paris and I commend your initiative in bringing the matter so urgently to my notice.

Jus svieng Magantshalita UNCLASSIFIED

FM COI LONDON

TO ROUTINE UKMIS VIENNA

TELNO VISIT 01

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INFO ROUTINE FCO, DEPT OF ENERGY

FOR W.A. DICKSON

COPY TO DOENG - AE DIV NEVILLE

COPY TO FCO ID - VISITS

FCO SEND - LAMPORT

FROM S FASKEN - OVIS COI

Mosposelle AE

DR BLIX. MY MINUTE OF 22 JAN
AND CLARK'S LETTER TO R. SMITH - 24 JAN

I GIVE BELOW OUTLINE PROGRAMME AS IT STANDS AT PRESENT: -

SUN 17 JUNE ARRIVE IN N-W ENGLAND (MANCHESTER) DINNER WITH CHIEF EXEC, BNFL

MON 18 JUNE DAY VISIT TO SELLAFIELD TRAVEL DOWN TO LONDON

TUES 19 JUNE AVAILABLE FOR MEETING AT AEA TECHNOLOGY LUNCH

IN H OF C. FOLLOWED BY P.MS QUESTIONS. 3.45 MERRY

Q.45 MEETING WITH SOS ON BROY

WED 20 JUNE JAGM OF BRITISH NUCLEAR FORUM AND LUNCH
(OPENING DAY OF CONFERENCE) AT WHICH BLIX
WILL BE ASKED TO SPEAK
MP.S PRESENT.

THUR 21 JUNE MORNING FREE

15.00 SEC OF STATE)

15.15 MIN OF STATE) FCO

EVENING DINNER
HOST: SEC OF STATE FOR ENERGY

FRI 22 JUNE DEPARTURE

ONLY APPOINTMENTS NOT YET FIXED ARE THE ONES ON 19 JUNE.

COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

PAGE 1 UNCLASSIFIED

