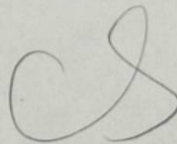
PRIME MINISTERPresent for Premier Hua

I do not know whether Michael Alexander had the opportunity of talking to you on the plane about Premier Hua's present, but the original thought of a Sinclair miniaturised television is not going to work. The following alternatives have been suggested:

- (i) A framed picture of either the Tower of London or Merton College, both of which you will be visiting.
- (ii) Short-wave radio.
- (iii) A selection of Crown Derby
- (iv) A suggestion which comes from Nick which is to present a set of Joseph Needham's enormous, unfinished and very scholarly history of Chinese science and technology. The argument for doing this is that it is without much doubt the most important piece of British scholarship on China this century, and that Needham has met Chairman Hua. The arguments against are that the Chinese already have copies of the published volumes and that Needham himself is one of the leading British sympathisers with the Chinese Government. The Cambridge University Press will send us a specimen volume for you to look at.



19 October 1979