

PRIME MINISTER

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CONFIDENTIAL

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follow your correspondence

with Cranley Onslow.

Content to commission work

try officials as at "x"?

DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

I have read with great interest the minute of 17 July to you from the Secretary of State for Defence concerning his discussion with Cranley Onslow on defence procurement matters.

The question of R&D levies on defence sales seems to me to be of relevance in the context of public purchasing policy. I would find it helpful, therefore, if officials could be invited to quantify for us the financial effects in recent years of crediting the defence budget with such receipts.

I am copying this to Francis Pym and the other recipients of his minute.

4 August 1980

