



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 January 1981

Dear Mr. Hammer,

Thank you for your letter of 17 December about the Leonardo Codex. I am grateful to you for letting me know of your plans for its future.

I am glad that Norman St. John-Stevas was able to arrange at short notice for the issue of a licence for the temporary export of the manuscript to the United States for its restoration and exhibition during the Inauguration ceremonies.

I understand that the manuscript will be returned to this country later this month for the hearing by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art of your application for an export licence for the longer term. The Reviewing Committee will then submit their recommendation to Norman St. John-Stevas. Clearly an important factor will be the proposed arrangements for the exhibition of the manuscript in Britain for three months each year. I was very pleased to learn of the extensive arrangements you have made for that purpose.

/ I gather

DSG

CDLO

Arts + Antiquities



I gather that, since you wrote to me, the Royal Academy have suggested that the first showing of the manuscript in this country could be arranged as part of the Leonardo exhibition to be held at the Academy this summer. I hope that I shall have an opportunity to see the manuscript while it is on display this year.

Yours sincerely

Roger Federer

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Dr. Armand Hammer.