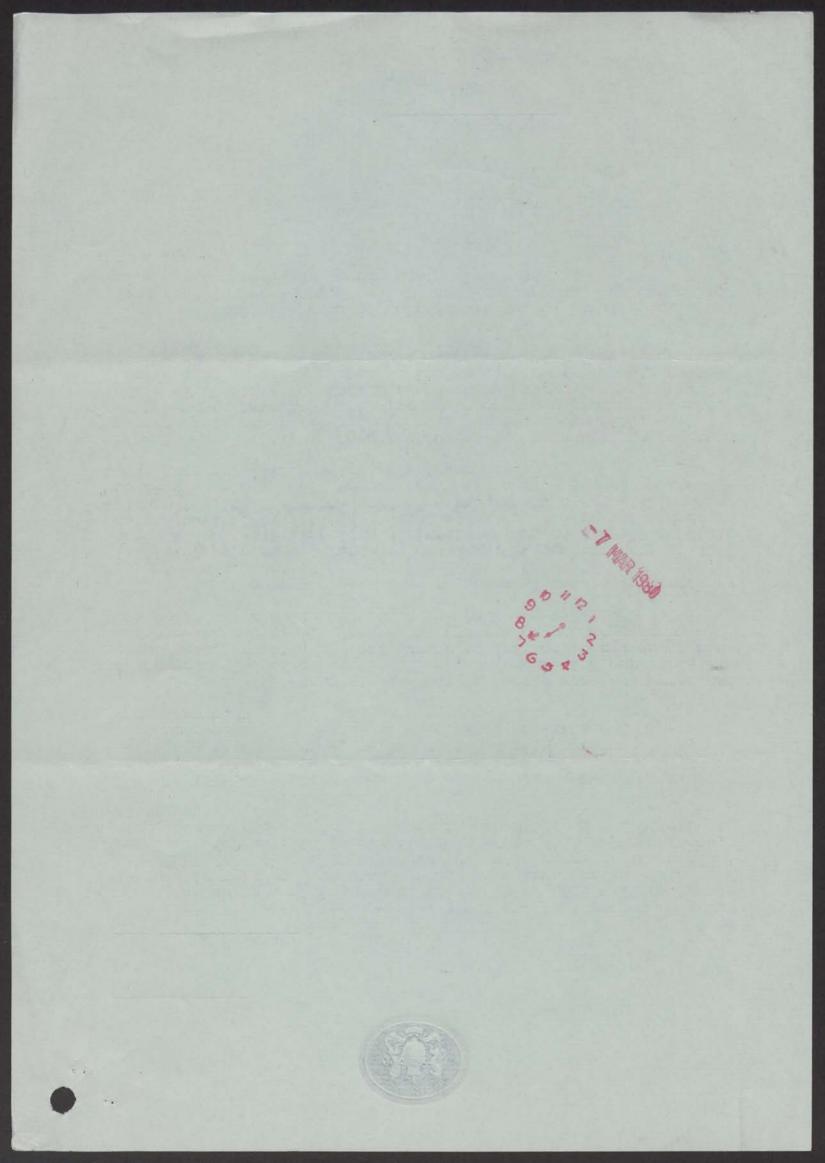


this last point is particularly important.

I have let it be known that I hope to announce the outcome of the review soon after the Easter Recess. Meanwhile, arrangements have been made for OD to consider a report by the Official Committee on Home Defence on 20 March. We may well decide that we need to spend a little more money in this area (but probably not very much), and if so OD will need to consider whether offsetting savings can be found.

I am sending a copy of this minute to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Defence Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.



10 DOWNING STREET

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10 March 1980

The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's minute of 6 March about the Home Defence Review. She has noted that these matters are scheduled for discussion in OD on 20 March.

I am sending copies of this letter to George Walden (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Brian Norbury (Ministry of Defence), John Wiggins (HM Treasury) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. A. PATTISON

J.A. Chikot, Esq.; Home Office.

From the Private Secretary