



Prime Minute 23A

Content that test should
take place? A.S.C. 17/2

Yes
no

MO 12/2/4

PRIME MINISTER

BRITISH NUCLEAR TEST PROGRAMME

Preparations for the next British underground nuclear test at the American Nevada Test Site, which you approved as part of the 1980/81 programme in early 1980, are now well advanced to meet a revised planned firing date of about 8 April 1982.

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2. The publicity arrangements will be as for all our previous tests. These are that there should be no prior announcement of our intentions but that, immediately after the test, a Press statement will be issued simultaneously in London and the United States. As on past occasions, you may wish to give Cabinet some advance warning.

3. I am copying this minute to the Home Secretary, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

S.

Ministry of Defence
15th February 1982