

28/13

Ref: B 05882

*Submit to  
Dawson (MOD)*

①

*Prime Minister*

PRIME MINISTER

*R.  
27/12*

*Handwritten initials*

Defence Contracts with Iran

The Secretary of State for Defence and the Lord Privy Seal have circulated<sup>x</sup> an OD memorandum dated 20 December in which the present position on defence contracts with Iran is described, and your endorsement is sought on the "go slow" tactics which are at present being followed.

2. I recommend that, subject to the comments of the other members of OD, you should approve the proposals put forward by the Defence Secretary and Lord Privy Seal. These represent the most sensible reconciliation that can be achieved at the present time between current circumstances in Iran, our obligations to the United States and our own national interests. Clearly the position will change if the United States, without obtaining a Chapter VII resolution ask us to take specific overt measures involving military sales against Iran, or if the United States obtain a Chapter VII resolution leading to economic sanctions in some form. In either of these situations we shall need to reconsider the position.

*Agreed  
R.L.*

*R L Wade-Gery*

Cabinet Office

R L WADE-GERY

21 December 1979

\* under cover of Mr Dawson's letter to Mr Pattison of 20th December