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MO 26/7/4

PRIME MINISTER

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Prime Minister
Re defence treaty
in nervous that his
agreement may get
unpicked by
over-anxious officials
COP
5/7/41

UK PARTICIPATION IN STRATEGIC DEFENCE INITIATIVE RESEARCH

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry has copied to me his minute of today's date commenting on mine of 31st October.

2. As I said in my own minute, I should be very happy for my officials to brief those in other interested Departments about the detailed terms of the Memorandum of Understanding and obviously I would not object if this is done under Cabinet Office chairmanship. I would only comment that the changes that were made were secured as a result of direct negotiation with Mr Weinberger over the heads of his experts and, I am advised, produced a result which goes beyond anything achieved previously with the Americans on technology transfer. Of course the terms are not those which we would have specified in every case if we alone were writing the MOU. But I would be extremely wary of seeking to put forward amendments or engage in another round of negotiation since there will be plenty of people in the United States Administration waiting for a chance to unpick what has been agreed.



2. I am copying this minute to the other members of OD,
the Secretary of State for Education and Science and Sir Robert
Armstrong.

Rummm [Approved by The Defence Secretary
Ministry of Defence & signed in his absence]

3rd November 1985

4th?

DEFENCE : SDI part 3



SECRET

DEFENCE

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CONFIDENTIAL