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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

23 July, 1984

COCOM: SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF LIST REVIEW

The Prime Minister has noted with satisfaction the successful outcome of the COCOM List Review, recorded in Sir Geoffrey Howe's minute of 19 July.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of OD and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(C.D. Powell)

L. Appleyard, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL



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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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COCOM: Successful Conclusion of List Review

- 1. I was pleased, as I am sure were you, to see Paris telegram number 867 reporting the successful negotiation last week of the major outstanding items of the COCOM List Review and thus the successful conclusion of the List Review itself. This is a noteworthy achievement, particularly in view of the considerable gap which separated the positions of COCOM members on the various issues until almost the very end of discussions. It is especially satisfying that agreements on the computers, software, and switching items were reached within the terms of the UK delegation's negotiating mandate. In making the compromises necessary to achieve the result we have thus yielded less than at first seemed likely and perhaps gained more than we at first thought possible.
- 2. I need hardly add that much depended on this successful outcome: failure could well have called into question the public credibility of the strategic embargo, and could have reopened within the Alliance the divisive issues which were put to rest after the Siberian pipeline dispute. The completion of the List Review represents the closure of the final chapter on that era. I believe that, with the agreement in Paris, the prospect of the sort of US unilateral action which led to the pipeline dispute has substantially diminished, and that we can now look forward to a more stable period in West/

/West



West economic relations. Our negotiating team, led by Mr Peter Corley, is to be congratulated on its achievement.

3. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister and other members of OD.

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(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
19 July 1984

Soviet union: Credit terms.

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