

PRIME MINISTER

1985 ANNUAL REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT FUNDED R & D

You will remember that Sir Robert Armstrong proposed that the Review, which was one of the main papers taken at last week's E(A) on R & D, should be published after the classified elements had been suitably amended. In the event this point was not discussed at the meeting. Sir Robert Armstrong's Office have renewed his request for publication. Their note is at Flag A and the Summary of the Review is at Flag B.

Though the Review contains material which some will use to criticise the Government's record on R & D spending, it also draws out the point that industry itself must bear a major responsibility for overall expenditure on R & D, and that over half of the Government R & D budget goes to MOD. Furthermore, at this time of year publication seems unlikely to excite much comment either way.

Content that the Cabinet Office should make the necessary arrangements for publication as soon as possible?

Man Adelson

Yes not

6 August 1985

HL1ABB

A

Ref. A085/2091

MR ADDISON

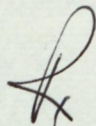
1985 Annual Review of Government Funded R & D

Your minute of 1 July said that the Prime Minister wished to consider the question of publication across Government. In the event that was not possible and I would be grateful therefore if you would now seek the Prime Minister's approval to publication on the basis of Sir Robert Armstrong's minute of 28 June (A085/1774)

1 PB at 19.45

2. As that minute notes, an unclassified version of the 1984 Review was published and received a warm welcome from industrialists, the press, from academics and others interested in the field of science and technology policy. Both the decision to publish the 1984 Review and its quality also received favourable comment from MPs on both sides of the House in the debate on science policy on 14 June. It is proposed that the 1985 Review should also be published, subject to the deletion of classified information relating to the detail of future defence expenditures. Sir Robin Nicholson has agreed with MOD what might be said about these.

3. If the Prime Minister agrees, we will make the necessary arrangements for publication as soon as possible.



R P HATFIELD

6 August 1985

Science + Tech
Budget

PT 4





file ✓

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. HATFIELD
CABINET OFFICE

1985 ANNUAL REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT FUNDED R&D

Thank you for your minute of 6 August.
The Prime Minister has agreed that arrangements
for publication of the report should be
made as soon as possible.

(MARK ADDISON)

7 August 1985

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