



Send

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. HATFIELD
CABINET OFFICE

The Prime Minister has now seen Sir Robert Armstrong's minute of 25 May with which he enclosed the first joint report of the Chairmen of ACARD and the ABRC. The Prime Minister has agreed that permission for publication should be granted and that the report should be published as a Command Paper and laid before Parliament in the Prime Minister's name. You will, however, have seen that the Prime Minister has agreed to Dr. Nicholson's proposal that the seminar on science, technology and industry should be postponed from 8 July until mid-September. This need not, however, delay publication of the report.

T. FLESHER

27 May 1983



Prime Minister:

Ref.A083/1490

PRIME MINISTER

Agree to
Yes not publication?

First Joint Report of the Chairmen of
ACARD and ABRC

DE 26/5

Sir Henry Chilver has asked me to submit to you the first joint report of the Chairmen of ACARD and the ABRC, which he has prepared with Sir Alec Merrison, ABRC Chairman until last February. The Secretary of State for Education and Science has also been sent a copy. The report stems from the invitation in Cmnd 8591 (Government response to the first report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology) to the two Chairmen to produce such reports. It seeks to set the framework for future reports by outlining some of the key issues in science and technology policy and the economic context in which decisions on R&D funding have to be taken. There is no summary, but Chapter 5 contains a brief summing-up of key points. No Government response will be needed.

2. Sir Henry has sought permission for its publication. Cmnd 8591 did not give an express commitment to publication, but this is widely expected and the two Chairmen regard the document as a valuable stimulus to public debate on the issues raised. I suggest, therefore, that permission for publication be granted.

3. Lord Sherfield, Chairman of the Select Committee, has pressed for the report to be formally laid before Parliament, as recommended by the Committee. This would be appropriate, since it is a document requested by the Government, and would best be accomplished by publication as a Command Paper. You may wish it to be laid before Parliament in your name. It can and should be published before your seminar on 8 July,* the report will then be a useful summary of some of the key issues to be discussed on that day.

but see Dr Nicholson's
proposal to postpone
the seminar elsewhere in
the box.

RA

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

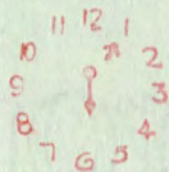
25 May 1983

Ind Pat : ACORP Study University



Industry Study

20 June 1983



ACORP STUDY

ACORP STUDY

FIRST JOINT REPORT BY THE CHAIRMEN OF
THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (ACARD)
AND
THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE RESEARCH COUNCILS (ABRC)

May 1983