

W.0471

MR SCHOLAR

22 July 1983

THE FUTURE OF THE BRITISH TECHNOLOGY GROUP

I have seen the draft of the further paper to the Prime Minister on the British Technology Group which I understand the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry proposes to submit to her later today.

2. The new paper essentially repeats the proposals in the Secretary of State's minute of 4 July but provides a great deal of detailed and quantitative amplification of his proposals.
3. Thus, I continue to support the case made by the Secretary of State for the retention of BTG in its new form, but the comments I made in my minute to the Prime Minister of 6 July are still relevant. In particular I believe that the three further suggestions I made in paragraph 5 of my previous minute would enhance the likelihood of a successful future for a re-launched BTG.
4. I think the Prime Minister might wish to hear news on the need for a re-launched BTG from the private sector, and it might be helpful to draw her attention to the letter from Mr Tindale, Deputy Chairman of Finance for Industry (now investors in industry) which was attached to Mr Jenkin's minute of 9 May. She might also find it valuable to talk to Mr Tindale on the subject, or to his Chairman, Lord Caldecote.
5. I am copying this minute to Sir Robert Armstrong.

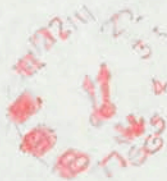
for You
ROBIN B NICHOLSON
Chief Scientist

(Dictated by Dr Nicholson and
signed in his absence)

Ind 101

Batal Teknologi Space Pt 2

22 JUL 1954



[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

[Faint text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or address.]