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SK

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9 April, 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 30 March. She was glad to learn of the high opinion you have of the Chief Scientist and his staff. She has also noted with considerable interest your views on the difference between the mere "containment of cost" and obtaining better value for money in the public sector.

DAVID BARCLAY

Sir Alan Muir Wood

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'DB' or similar initials.

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Our Ref. AMMW/jmp

Your Ref.

March 30 1984

Prime Minister (ls)

I will reply. R2

*Doub
2/4*

Rt. Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, PC MP
 Prime Minister
 10 Downing Street
 LONDON

Dear Prime Minister

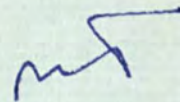
I appreciate your letter of March 29 marking the end of my extended period as a member of ACARD. I have found this a remarkably interesting experience but I cannot let the occasion pass without a tribute to the very high quality of support that ACARD enjoys from the Chief Scientist and from the cabinet office staff.

As I remarked on the occasion of your visit to the Royal Society on January 9, one of my great concerns both within and outwith ACARD has been to contribute to the development of understanding as to how to combine the containment of cost with the obtaining of value for money. At present I continue to see a great deal of waste by central and local government which arises from concentration upon the former without regard to the latter.

Yours sincerely



Alan Muir Wood



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