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Peter Ricketts, FCO
C.D.P.
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PA

MR POWELL - No. 10

VISIT OF INDIAN PRIME MINISTER

16 May 1985

1. I had a visit yesterday from the Chief Scientific Adviser (Defence) to the Indian Government. He told me that the Indians were considering setting up science parks associated with their defence research laboratories in order to exploit more fully the technology they developed for defence purposes. He was very interested in the rapid growth of the science park movement in this country under the Prime Minister's administration and we spent an hour and a half discussing the background to this and what was being achieved. My colleague has a paper before the Indian Prime Minister at the present time and he believes that Mr Gandhi would very much welcome an opportunity to visit a science park during his forthcoming visit to the United Kingdom. A particularly appropriate one would be Cambridge in view of its widespread reputation and also Mr Gandhi's association with the University.

2. Perhaps you could consider this possibility as you are developing Mr Gandhi's itinerary. I would be pleased to provide any further information.

RBN.

SIR ROBIN NICHOLSON
Chief Scientific Adviser