



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7 October 1985

Dear Sir Henry,

Thank you for your letter of 9 September and the report of the Council on "Exploitable Areas of Science".

I strongly support the main thrust of the report that United Kingdom R & D must be more exploitable and that we ourselves must exploit it better. As the report points out some other countries do seem able to identify the promising new areas with industrial potential sooner than we do and act on them more quickly. I therefore welcome the proposal in the report for improving the UK performance. I agree that the arrangements should be separate from and funded independently of Government but should, nevertheless, have a major influence on R & D supported by Government. Involvement of both the industrial and scientific communities will be vital if the private and public sectors are both to contribute towards increasing the exploitation of our national effort in science and technology.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Henry Chilver



DRAFT ✓
OVERTAKEN

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I agree to Part I of the report being given wider dissemination through publication and that it should be vigorously followed up along the lines which you have discussed with Sir Robin Nicholson.

Yours sincerely

Sir Henry Chilver.

Roger Dainton



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. TOLAN

Cabinet Office

ACARD REPORT - EXPLOITABLE AREAS OF SCIENCE

We have discussed your minute to me of 31 October.

The Prime Minister has agreed that her letter to Sir Henry Chilver be printed at the front of part 1 of the ACARD Report.

I attach the letter, amended as we discussed on the telephone, which the Prime Minister has re-signed.

MARK ADDISON

5 November 1985

ks

PRIME MINISTER

cf. ~~attached~~
pprs please.

Earlier this month you wrote to Sir Henry Chilver (copy attached) supporting the conclusions of the ACARD report on exploitable areas of science, and agreeing to Part I of the report being published (Part II is more technical and is the factual basis on which the analysis and conclusions of Part I are based). Cabinet Office think it would add a great deal of weight to the Report if your letter to Sir Henry Chilver were published at the front. There is a precedent for publishing Ministerial responses to ACARD reports. The Cabinet Office proposal seems a good one.

If the letter is published, it would, I think, be better to omit the last paragraph, since this might convey the impression to those not reading the report carefully that Part II has been "suppressed". Sir Henry would be happy for you to re-sign the letter, omitting that paragraph.

An amended draft is attached for your signature.

Mail Address

MEA

4 November, 1985.

*Tech to cb
4/11*



C0440

MR ADDISON

No 10

cc Sir Robin Nicholson

31 October 1985

ACARD REPORT - EXPLOITABLE AREAS OF SCIENCE

Sir Robin Nicholson minuted you on ~~3~~ October about Sir Henry Chilver's letter to the Prime Minister on the ACARD report "Exploitable Areas of Science".

2. Subsequently (on ~~7~~ October) the Prime Minister wrote to Sir Henry agreeing to publication of the report and to the follow-up action suggested.

3. The report has recently gone forward to HMSO for printing but the view was taken that it would be of benefit in progressing further the work started by the ACARD study to have the Prime Minister's letter published in the front of the report. There is a precedent for Ministerial responses to ACARD reports to be published. A letter from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry was included in the Government Response to the ACARD Report "New Opportunities in Manufacturing: The Management of Technology" published in September 1984.

4. I would be grateful to know if you see any difficulty in printing the Prime Minister's letter in the ACARD report.

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A TOLAN

Cabinet Office
31 October 1985

Count Mach: ACARD P+3

