

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
 ASHDOWN HOUSE
 123 VICTORIA STREET
 LONDON SW1E 6RB

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-212 3301
 SWITCHBOARD 01-212 7676

Secretary of State for Industry

22 March 1983

Michael Scholar Esq
 Private Secretary to the
 Prime Minister
 10 Downing Street
 London SW1

Dear Michael

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 9 March to Dr Nicholson about the Prime Minister's wish to have a seminar on science, technology and industry.

2 My Secretary of State fully supports this proposal and believes that it will provide an excellent opportunity to present British scientific and technological achievements in a much more positive way than we can apparently expect from the BBC. He suggests that the programme for the seminar should aim to show that Government priorities and expenditure on science and technology do result from a consistent view of the Government's wider policy responsibilities.

3 Whilst he believes that much more can, and should be done, to secure general economic benefits from the UK's considerable expenditure on basic research and defence R&D he suggests that on this occasion the emphasis should be on what is achieved and he hopes that both the Ministry of Defence and the Research Councils will be encouraged to participate in that spirit. He sees this as an important counter to the message of the Horizon programme.

4 My Secretary of State, of course, welcomes the opportunity to speak at the seminar on the work and policy of his Department. The officials in his Department will do all that they can to assist with the arrangements.

yours sincerely

Michael Kenny

PP

ANDREW COOP
 Private Secretary

P.S. Mr Jenkin hopes to minute the Prime Minister shortly on his plans for the BTG which are very relevant to the general thrust of the proposed seminar.

Science + Tech
Public Seminars
March 83

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
ASHDOWN HOUSE
121 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1E 6BB
TELEPHONE: 01-275 3101
FAX: 01-275 3102



11 12 11 8 9 8
11 12 11 8 9 8

23 MAR 1983

CONFIDENTIAL