

SUBJECT

cc Master.

SECRET



Je VC 7.  
c Mr Wharmy

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 May 1985

Dear John,

MERCURY

*BE*  
The Prime Minister discussed with the Chancellor today the question of public procurement and Mercury which the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry raised with her recently. She said it was important for the success of the Government's telecommunications policy that Mercury should prosper. It would be wrong, however, to provide special treatment for Mercury. It was agreed that, as a preparatory step to increasing the awareness of departments of what Mercury could offer, a survey should be conducted of the procurement needs which Mercury might be able to meet. The Chancellor suggested the renovation of the Federal telephone network. The Prime Minister asked that DTI officials, in conjunction with the Treasury, should produce a note setting out these opportunities.

I am copying this letter to Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury).

Your sincerely

Andrew Turnbull

ANDREW TURNBULL

John Mogg, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry.

SECRET

cst