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PRIME MINISTER

CERN REVIEW

I attach, under a short covering minute from Sir Keith Joseph, George Walden's progress report on the CERN Review. Also attached are comments from John Fairclough, who believes that the line up of the review group looks satisfactory, and that the British representation, in the form of Professor Fender, will be very sound.

DES are aware of the need to report to you in November to provide an opportunity for the UK to give notice of withdrawal, if necessary, at the end of 1987.

MAA

(Mark Addison)

9 May 1986

[Handwritten signature]

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PRIME MINISTER

CERN REVIEW

You may be interested to see the enclosed copy of George Walden's minute reporting progress on the CERN review. We have noted your request for a full report on progress in November and indeed we shall be keeping as closely in touch with the exercise as we properly can throughout the coming months. I think it impossible to judge now what line we may wish to take in this matter towards the end of the year. But it is a high calibre group and reflects our view that there should be a strong business element. Professor Fender is an excellent choice, and knows the CERN problem well.

K.J.

KJ

Department of Education and Science 6 May 1986

SECRETARY OF STATE

1. Professor Mitchell has just informed me of the selection by the CERN Committee of Council of members of the Review Group. It is:

Professor Anatole Abragam (Chairman)	France; physicist; formally Head of the Fundamental Research Laboratory of the French Atomic Energy Agency SACLAY
Dr M Boyer	Spain; physics and economics; President of the Spanish Foreign Trade Bank; formerly Spanish Minister of Finance (until July 1985)
Dr C de Benedetti Olivetti	Italy; engineer; Managing Director,
Professor B Fender	UK; chemist; Vice-Chancellor, Keele University; formerly Director of the Institut Laue Langevin
Professor W Paul	Germany; University of Bonn; nuclear physics
Mr Haakon Sandvold	Norway; engineer; Director, Ardal og Verk A.S.; President of the Norwegian Science and Industry Research Council
Professor J Vodoz	Switzerland; management consultant; President AMYSA

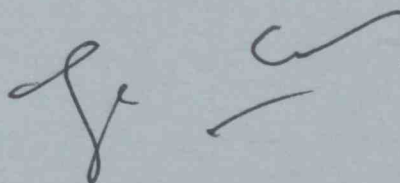
2. Professor Mitchell, who knows Professor Abragam well (in part from the scientifically very successful year that the latter spent at the Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford in 1978/79) tells me that Professor Abragam did a DPhil in Oxford in 1951-53; has done very distinguished work in nuclear magnetic resonance; that he was elected to a chair in the College de France, is a member of the French Academy of Science, and is a Foreign Fellow of the Royal Society. Professor Mitchell regards him as a very balanced, clear-minded humane and cultured person; he comments that he is an anglophile but that that would not affect his judgement.

3. It seems to me, looking at the membership of the group, that CERN has lived up to its reputation of distinction and good judgement. It is potentially a very powerful team; but they are busy people and a good deal will depend on the choice and organisation of the secretariat. These details will be discussed at the June meeting of Council and I know that SERC, with Science Branch, are giving further thought to these matters and to the possibility of looking for someone we might offer to second from the UK should that be acceptable.

4. I have, naturally, noted what Mr Addison reported, in his letter to Mr Smith of 3 March, of the Prime Minister's wish

to receive a full report on the progress of the review in November; and our delegates have been briefed accordingly. Indeed I hope that one way or another they, and we, can keep fairly well informed of developments; and I know that officials here are working on a memorandum of evidence that the UK might submit to the review team.

5. For the present, I think we must be seen to place our full trust and confidence in the review group and let them get on with the job. Continued overt pressure from the UK would harm our interests and our standing; and I have every confidence in Professor Fender's good sense and vigour as the UK member of the group. I intend to have a word with him personally to express our appreciation of his taking on this very important task.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Walden', with a stylized flourish at the end.

GEORGE WALDEN
29 April 1986





file
bcc John Fairclough

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 May 1986

CERN REVIEW

The Prime Minister has seen George Walden's report, attached to your Secretary of State's minute of 6 May. She has noted this without comment.

MARK ADDISON

Rob Smith, Esq.,
Department of Education and Science

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MR ADDISON - No. 10

9 May 1986

CERN REVIEW

Thank you for sending me a copy of the Secretary of State for Education's minute to the Prime Minister covering the progress report from Mr Walden on the CERN Review.

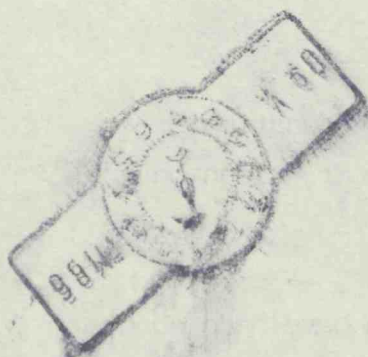
2. I fully endorse the comments Sir Keith Joseph and Mr Walden have made about the calibre of the proposed Review Group and the value to the UK of having Professor Fender as a member of the review team. This is a good start and Fender's appointment should greatly assist the reporting process and ensure Ministers get the kind of information they will need when they consider the progress of the Review and the UK's position on CERN in November.

3. I have also seen a copy of the UK draft memorandum referred to in para 4 of Mr Walden's report and feel this contains some sound suggestions for the scope and direction of the CERN review, which if taken up by Professor Abragam, the Chairman of the Review Group, will strengthen the exercise and help to secure the kind of efficient and independent review we all desire.

4. I am copying this minute to Sir Robert Armstrong.

pp JOHN W FAIRCLOUGH
Chief Scientific Adviser

John W. Fairclough



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. FAIRCLOUGH
CABINET OFFICE

I attach a copy of a minute addressed to the Prime Minister from the Secretary of State for Education, which covered a progress report from Mr. Walden on the CERN review.

BC || Subject to any comments you may wish to add, I shall submit this to the Prime Minister for information this weekend.

(Mark Addison)
7 May 1986

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