



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

From the Secretary of State

25 February 1986

*[Handwritten signature]*

Eumetsat Headquarters

You copied to me your letter of 18 February to George Younger, seeking views on a possible UK bid for the Eumetsat headquarters.

I support the proposal that the Meteorological Office should bid for the Eumetsat Headquarters, provided other recipients of your letter approve the proposed financial package. I understand that we have a good technical case for a UK site for the headquarters, and I share your view that the long-term technical and economic returns to the UK could be significant. In view of the French, German and Dutch sites for ESA, I think that it is right for the UK to try and increase its share of European space facilities; the Eumetsat Headquarters provides a good opportunity.

It will be important to ensure that our presentation of the UK bid is as strong as possible in view of German, French and Dutch competition. I hope that the Space Centre and the Meteorological Office will bear in mind the advisability of lobbying by our Embassies on their behalf in capitals before the Eumetsat Council.

/Copies

Geoffrey Pattie Esq MP



Copies of this letter go to the Prime Minister, Nigel Lawson, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Tebbit, Tom King, David Young, Kenneth Baker, George Younger, Malcolm Rifkind and Sir Robin Nicholson.

GEOFFREY HOWE

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Howe', written in a cursive style.

AEROSPACE Space Policy Pt 2

