



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Prime Minister (2)

USofS(DP) 23/4/3

*To note that the UK will be
bidding to host the R113 10 March 1986
headquarters of Eumetsat, the
new European meteorological satellite
organisation. MSA 11/3*

Dear Geoffrey

Thank you for your letter of 18 February to George Younger, about the proposal that the UK should bid to host the headquarters of EUMETSAT and suggesting that the Department of Trade and Industry/Ministry of Defence should jointly fund the inducement package outlined in Sir Robin Nicholson's letter of 4 February 1986.

We, too, are attracted by the general arguments in favour of UK making a positive gesture in this way and I therefore agree that the Meteorological Office be authorised to make a bid, on the shared basis you propose. However, the Meteorological Office will not find it easy to accommodate additional demands on their budget and I agree that when negotiating with EUMETSAT the present cost estimates should be regarded as upper limits. The aim must be to keep costs to a sensible minimum consistent with an attractive proposal which means, as you suggest, that the bid should be supported by canvassing amongst the other member states likely to be sympathetic to our case.

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

with kind regards.
John
Lee
(JOHN LEE)

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AEROSPACE SPACE POLICY PT 2

Summary and

conclusions of the study

of the role of the aerospace

industry in the national

defense and economic

development of the United

States.

The study was conducted by the RAND Corporation, a nonprofit organization that provides research and analysis for the U.S. government and the private sector. The study was funded by the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy.

The study found that the aerospace industry plays a critical role in the national defense and economic development of the United States. The industry is a major source of technology and innovation, and it is a major employer of highly skilled workers.