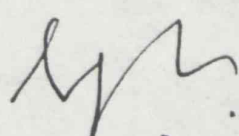




FCS/88/036

CHIEF SECRETARY TO TREASURYEuropean Transonic Wind Tunnel (ETWT)

1. I have read with interest Kenneth Clarke's most helpful letter to you of 22 February, which sets out very clearly the expected benefits to the UK of the European Transonic Wind Tunnel project. I endorse Kenneth's plea that we should now move forward quickly to announce UK participation in the construction stage of the project.
2. Chancellor Kohl has in mind to raise this matter with the Prime Minister soon. I understand that the next meeting of the ETWT Steering Group will take place in Cologne on 25 February, and that our partners will be keenly awaiting a firm indication of UK intentions then. I would see advantage in making an announcement at that meeting. I hope very much that you can agree to this.
3. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, Kenneth Clarke, George Younger, John Fairclough and Sir Robin Butler.


(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
24 February 1988

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