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The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP
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9 March 1988

Ken Ken

EUROPEAN COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS AND THE EUROPEAN TRANSONIC
WIND TUNNEL (ETW) *affat*

I have seen a copy of John Fairclough's letter to you of 18 February suggesting particular ways in which scientific and technological collaborative ventures in Europe may be better co-ordinated.

I welcome his general approach and, in particular, his view that careful account should be taken of the wider effect of decisions in the international science sphere on other important projects where the UK is involved. My officials are already working with his to carry forward the future timetable of forthcoming decisions and to develop common principles concerning the management of international projects. Indeed, in the course of our current discussions on CERN, we are hard at work to secure management improvements there as part of our general strategy.

I also believe that it will be sensible, for the future, to ensure that attention is specifically drawn to the effects of potential decisions on projects and collaborative ventures that are closely related. Questions will arise, of course, as to how close the relationship may be in any particular case and what account should be taken of it. I therefore welcome John Fairclough's offer that his officials will be ready to work, where appropriate, with those of other Departments to develop the advice necessary.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, the Secretary of State for Defence, Sir Robin Butler as well as to other members of E(ST).

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AEROPAC - Transonic Wind
PT 3

