



*CPC*

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MO 26/17E

121 April 1988

*Dear Kenneth,*

*CPC 2/4*

EUROPEAN COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 18th March to Geoffrey Howe. *✓ Ray*

I was encouraged by the assurance in John Fairclough's letter to me of 16th March that there is not, as I had feared, any intention to create a new level of bureaucracy for the co-ordination of the UK's involvement in European collaborative projects. I for my part did not intend to imply in my letter to you of 7th March that I was attempting to shield defence projects from the proper process of inter-Departmental, or Ministerial, discussion, as appropriate.

I am therefore content that we should continue to make use of the machinery which exists at present. If it is felt that this machinery is in need of some further improvement, my officials would of course be ready to discuss such proposals.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Prime Minister and other members of E(ST), and to Sir Robin Butler and John Fairclough.

*Yours ever,*

*George*

George Younger

The Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP

Agk05/ACG : A320 P73

