



FCS/88/163

1. Mr. Powell - to see
2. CF - P. C.
HRC
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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE & INDUSTRY

Intergovernmental Agreement on the Space Station

1. Thank you for your letter of 16 August asking me to put arrangements in hand for the signing by the UK of this Agreement.
2. As you may be aware, signature will now take place at the State Department on 29 September. Although President Reagan will not attend, enough of our European partners will be represented at ministerial level to justify our doing the same. I have therefore asked Simon Glenarthur, who was already due to fly to the South Pacific via Los Angeles on 1 October, to sign the Agreement for the UK.
3. A programme of bilateral calls is being arranged by the Embassy, including a call on Derwinski, Simon Glenarthur's opposite number at the State Department and Congressman Roe, Chairman of the Science Space and Technology Committee. Briefing is being put together with BNSC and with interested departments (we are of course aware that Robert Atkins will be discussing space issues in greater depth with the Americans during his visit to Washington at the end of October).
4. I understand that BNSC are also planning to send a representative to Washington for the Signing Ceremony and that he will participate in those calls which cover space matters.



5. As regards the problem of extraterritoriality to which you refer, I understand that your officials have concluded that this is not an obstacle to signature. Simon Glenarthur will therefore limit himself to making the point orally with Derwinski that our acceptance of the relevant article of the Intergovernmental Agreement does not imply acceptance by us that export controls should apply outside the national territory.

6. Copies of this minute go to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Home Secretary, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, and the Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons.

Geoffrey Howe

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(GEOFFREY HOWE)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
26 September 1988

*Approved by the
Foreign Secretary and
signed in his absence
abroad).*

AGROSPACE : Space P73

