



the department for Enterprise

RESTRICTED

The Rt. Hon. Nicholas Ridley MP
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Charles Powell Esq
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 0AA

Department of
Trade and Industry

1-19 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

Enquiries
01-215 5000

Telex 8811074/5 DTHQ G
Fax 01-222 2629

Direct line 01 215 5621
Our ref JW1AAX
Your ref
Date 11 September 1989

Dear Charles

BRITISH-SOVIET SPACE PROJECT "JUNO" - APPROACH FROM
SIR GEOFFREY PATTIE

You told me of Sir Geoffrey Pattie's request that the Prime Minister provide some form of video endorsement to Project Juno before her departure for the Soviet Union. As you assumed, Sir Geoffrey Pattie has taken on the Chairmanship of the UK end of this project to put a British astronaut in space as part of the Russian Space Programme.

Our informal inquiries suggest that the project is so far proceeding on course. However we see no reason to recommend a Prime Ministerial endorsement. We have consistently stressed the private sector-led nature of this project - which the Government welcomes but in which it has no direct involvement, and for which it has no financial responsibility.

The Government has already demonstrated its sympathy for the project's objectives through Lord Young's presence at the press launch in Moscow in June. There may at a later stage be a time when a Prime Ministerial message would be appropriate; but we feel that use of the Prime Minister to promote the venture now would give the wrong message about its relationship with Government, and could risk misunderstanding if all were not to go smoothly in the future.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Stephen Wall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Yours ever

Nol [Signature]
(Private Secretary)



Recycled Paper

Department of the Interior

Office of the Secretary

Washington, D.C.

February 1, 1909

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst.

