

SECRET



PRIME MINISTER

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s/k

SECURITY EXPORT CONTROLS

I have seen Sir Robert Armstrong's minute (A083/2287) to you of 29 July about the Cabinet Office Sub-Group's report on the above. I agree with the report's recommendations, and accept in principle the need to increase the effectiveness of our controls; we shall be seeking the necessary (if modest) additional resources by making manpower savings elsewhere within the Department.

2 We need more effective controls in our own direct interest. In addition, by showing the United States that we have taken effective action, we would avoid the risk of them taking further measures to restrict their exports of technology, which could have adverse consequences for our industry, and would strengthen our position in relation to the Export Administration Bills currently before Congress.

3 I am copying this to Members of OD and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

C.P.

C P

4 August 1983

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