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- 2 MAR 1984	
DESK OFFICER	REGISTRY
INDEX	PA 2326 <i>Activity Taken</i>

DD 291530Z PARIS
GRS 236
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY 291530Z (PARIS AND BONNO
FM FCO 291400Z FEB 84
TO IMMEDIATE PARIS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 170 OF 29 FEBRUARY,
AND TO IMMEDIATE BONN (DESKBY 291530Z)
MIPT: A320 LETTER TO MITTERRAND

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 35/84

I WANTED TO SEND YOU A PERSONAL LETTER TO INFORM YOU OF OUR
DECISION ON THE A320, A PROJECT WHICH IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO
ALL OF US. I HAVE ALSO TOLD HELMUT KOHL.

I AM PLEASED TO SAY THAT WE HAVE DECIDED THAT WE CAN PROVIDE
THE LAUNCH AID THAT WILL ENABLE BRITISH AEROSPACE TO GO AHEAD
WITH THE PROJECT. NORMAN TEBBIT WILL BE ANNOUNCING THIS IN
PARLIAMENT ON 1 MARCH, AND WILL BE WRITING TO M. PITERMAN ABOUT
DETAILS. I UNDERSTAND THAT NORMAN LAMONT AND HIS FRENCH, GERMAN
AND SPANISH COLLEAGUES WILL THEN MEET FORMALLY TO INAUGURATE THE
PROJECT.

I HOPE THAT THE A320 WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL COMMERCIAL VENTURE
AND PLAY A KEY PART IN THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF A STRONG
EUROPEAN AEROSPACE INDUSTRY. I ALSO HOPE THAT WE CAN FIND OTHER
POTENTIALLY PROFITABLE VENTURES TO EMBARK ON TOGETHER, NOT ONLY
IN THE AEROSPACE SECTOR. OUR DECISION ON 28 FEBRUARY TO BEGIN THE
ESPRIT PROGRAMME IS A FURTHER SIGN OF OUR COMMITMENT TO WORK
TOGETHER IN EUROPE IN HIGH TECHNOLOGY SECTORS, THROUGH SOUNDLY-
BASED PROGRAMMES WHICH ENJOY THE FULL BACKING OF OUR INDUSTRIES.
WE SHOULD NOW BE ABLE TO GIVE A NEW IMPETUS TO INDUSTRIAL
COLLABORATION IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE
A320 AND ESPRIT WILL SHOW WHAT EUROPEAN INDUSTRIES CAN DO WHEN
THEY WORK TOGETHER.

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NAD	SIR C TICKELL	DTI.
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