



*Prime Minister:*

*Agree to Sir*

*Henry Chilver's proposal?*

*RA 23/9*

PRIME MINISTER

Sir Henry Chilver, the Chairman of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development, thinks that it would be desirable to increase Press and public awareness of the activities of ACARD, particularly with the quality national and technical Press. This would help to improve contacts between ACARD and industry (and other non-governmental bodies); and that would improve ACARD's effectiveness and the quality of its advice to Ministers.

2. He would therefore propose to announce the existence of ACARD's current studies on advanced manufacturing technologies and university-industry links (the latter of which you commissioned from the Council in June 1982). This would be done through the Management and Personnel Office Press Office.

3. Sir Henry would also propose in due course to brief a selected group of correspondents about ACARD's role more generally, particularly in the wake of the Government's White Paper on Science and Government (Cmnd. 8591). Such an event might constitute a re-launch of ACARD from a Press point of view. A suitable occasion for this might be the publication of the first joint report by the Chairmen of ACARD and ABRC foreshadowed in Cmnd. 8591. On current thinking this would be early in the New Year.

4. I think that it would be useful for Sir Henry to proceed as he proposes; may I tell him that he may proceed accordingly?

*if he would be better  
himself look - with the press continued  
- with the relevant press.  
It would have far more  
impact than  
an announcement  
RA*

Robert Armstrong

22nd September 1982