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PRIME MINISTER

AT 19/4

The ruse for seeing Professor Bhattacharya - inviting him to the lunch for the Finnish Prime Minister and getting him to stay on afterwards - will not work. It is a dinner and not a lunch and is preceded by talks. Also 21 May may be too late.

An alternative might be to send Peter Warry to see Professor Bhattacharya. Peter could prepare a report on the Professor's views, particularly on the implications of collaboration with Honda. Having seen the report you could decide whether you needed to see the Professor yourself. The optimum time for this would be after Mr. Tebbit has circulated his paper on BL, promised for week beginning 13 May, and discussion with Ministers, scheduled for following week.

Agree Peter Warry seek Professor Bhattacharya's views in first instance, with possibility of meeting kept open?

AT

19 April 1985

1. ~~don't think this would~~  
 put the Professor in a  
 difficult position.

not