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1900 Extn. 368

XXXXXX CHILTON,

28th January, 1963

Dr. J. B. Adams,
Director,
The Culham Laboratory,
Culham,
Abingdon,
Berkshire.

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 23 January, giving a calendar of operations. I think the order of events is right, but our meeting with Turnbull is more likely to be in March than in February - one of the few dates offered for the D.S.I.R./N.I.R.N.S. meeting of physicists is in March.

At Frascati we spoke of a meeting of directors at C.E.R.N. in March, to replace the Accelerator Study Group meeting, but no doubt this will either be replaced by or incorporated in the wider meeting on 2nd April. We did, however, propose a meeting of the whole group at Hamburg in October or November. This meeting could be quite useful for comparing views on national attitudes.

I presume that the only issue to be voted on at the December 1963 Council meeting, so far as the new programme is concerned, would be a budget for expanded design study work. I doubt whether the full programme could be approved before June or October 1964. The Governments will want both time to be convinced and reasonably firm estimates. This is in line with the time programme discussed in Geneva on the 18th January.

I agree that more Ministerial lobbying will be needed - in May, to get the Cockcroft Committee established, and again in November between the two Council meetings.

All this is on the assumption that things go reasonably well. If we get a sour answer in May, when we try to restart the Cockcroft Committee, or when the Cockcroft Committee reports, the whole programme will be slowed down. A crucial period will be that immediately following the issue of a new Cockcroft report - possibly early in June. Presumably the Minister will discuss this with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury (and possibly with the Chancellor). Last year this took a long time, on a much smaller amount of money.

Yours sincerely,

T. G. Pickavance