

7th December 1978

NOTE FOR MR.C.H.STEWART LOCKHART

TAC - RESEARCH. PAPERS T.8262, 8225

- 1. T.8225 makes the case - which we also made for keeping TRC. But TRC has gone, times have changed and my view is that we should now complete or close down the old TRC programme as soon as we can.

Our contribution of £130,000 was increased to this from £80,000 to save TRC. We did not succeed so we should not permit TAC to think £130,000 is a commitment we are prepared to live with for long.

For the present then TAC should initiate no new work.

- 2. TAC executive must then decide - in its own terms - whether it wants to do research. Roe and Lee have a vested interest in getting TAC more involved in research. It is therefore rather questionable whether your executive should be subjected directly to their special pleading. However I would not like to feel Wilson was the sole interpreter of the Research Committee. In BAT the solution is to get our views clear before the next and each TAC executive.
- 3. Specifically on T.8262 Para 2.2
 - (a) TAC should do nothing - it is contrary to ICOSI in any case. Even with ICOSI blessing however the answer would be the same.
 - (b) TAC executive must decide whether TAC should be involved in any new research and how it would be financed. I suggest we should be in no hurry to start anything here.
 - (c) We should be against this.
- 4. On the provision of marketing data you decided (under pressure from Bingham and Short?) not to supply TRC because it gave away a competitive advantage. Incidentally not all the statistics can be obtained elsewhere. I would recommend we stick to our refusal as we have already incurred whatever loss of goodwill we are going to and further, it is very unlikely that Imperial will provide the U.K. data. For TAC to report overseas sales but not U.K. would be ridiculous.
- 5. I hope we can discuss these points but I thought I should write a note just in case!

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S.J.GREEN