



*Prime Minister*

*Mr Tebbit's note showed that this approach was the only one offering any hope.*

*MAD 16/2*

PRIME MINISTER

CONCORDE COST SHARING

I have seen a copy of the note sent by the Department of Industry to Mike Pattison about Concorde costs.

Frankly I think it odd that our share of the costs was allowed to get out so far ahead of the French. However that is water under the bridge.

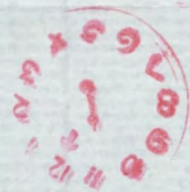
I would be surprised if, at this late stage, the French were ready publicly to admit that they owe us anything. But if the figuring clearly and evidently supports our case I would expect the French to be ready to let some compensation come our way through an indirect route. It is to that end that I would advise our pressure to be kept up - if need be in such a way for them to see that it will not go away.

I am copying this minute to Peter Carrington and Norman Tebbit.

SOAMES

13 February 1981





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