

6th February, 1961.

Mr. F. F. Turnbull,
The Secretary,
Office of the Minister for Science,
2 Richmond Terrace,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Turnbull,

The National Institute for Research in Nuclear Science have considered the proposal that an Atlas computer should be installed at Harwell under their control and management. I am instructed by the Chairman to let you know that the Institute are prepared to accept this commitment. In recording their decision the Institute added ~~that~~ they considered that they should not charge the universities for use of the computer, either for nuclear science or for any other use.

The Institute were by no means convinced that the proper place for a university computer was at a centre remote from a university, but they recognised that there were special considerations in this case, and they took note in particular of the following points, which were put to them as being the views of the Minister's Working Party.

- (a) that it is important for an order for an Atlas to be placed quickly and by a large user of computers such as the Atomic Energy Authority.
- (b) that computers such as K.D.F.9. will be made available to certain universities notwithstanding the provision of the Atlas.
- (c) that it is assumed that one or more universities may be able to make a case for an Atlas in the University, and that a further review is contemplated towards the end of 1962 to see whether a case for the provision of more than one Atlas in 1964 then exists.

Yours sincerely,

J. A. V. WILLIS
Secretary
National Institute for Research in Nuclear Science