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7 January 1975

Dear

LASER CENTRE

Thank you for sending me the copies of Swift-Hook's letter of 16 December 1974 to Vincent Essex and your reply of 20 December. I thought your letter dealt rather nicely with Swift-Hook's numerous and mostly misguided complaints.

After the Institute of Physics meeting at Essex last Friday I spoke with Roy Pike about the meeting he was proposing of the Quantum Electronics Group with the Rutherford Laboratory (?). My own view is that the SRC should not participate in informative/consultative meetings about the Laser Centre proposals with individual groups of this kind, although we could scarcely decline to provide information to them if requested. I believe it would be more appropriate for all such interests to be served by the attendance of those concerned at one meeting such as that suggested by yourself to be hosted by the Royal Society, at which I take it there would be a joint SRC/AEA presentation. Pike agreed to consider this possibility and I understood that he would be contacting you again. I suggest that it would be preferable if the meeting is held after government approval and I gather from Lomer that he would like it this way.

We are certain to want to distribute the scientific case document (Appendix 1 to SRC 107-74) more widely now so I will see that the necessary political editing is done. How do you feel about making it available to anyone proposing to attend the Royal Society meeting?

Yours sincerely

L C W HOBBS

c.c. Prof D J Bradley

P R Williams