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with IJC



~~Prime Minister~~

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To be aware - but you need  
not read the report.

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6.

Ref. A084/1629

PRIME MINISTER

Conference on Life Sciences and Mankind

Following Mr Nakasone's recent letter giving an initial report on the Conference of Life Sciences and Mankind, the Japanese Ambassador had now forwarded the enclosed official report of the conference.

2. From Mr Nakasone's point of view, the conference was a success. As Dr Nicholson pointed out in his minute of 18 April, Japan's objectives were essentially to justify its new emphasis on biotechnology as a key technology for the future to a possibly sceptical domestic audience. The more modest achievements of the conference from an international perspective are reflected in the rather vague third paragraph of Mr Nakasone's letter to you. Mr Nakasone may give a brief report on the conference at the Summit.

3. His letter and the report do not require a formal reply, but you may wish to refer to it in your bilateral with Mr Nakasone, noting that the conference and the proposed follow-up deal with important policy issues for scientific research.

RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

5 June 1984

Report is filed in folder  
attached to file.