

2. Mr. Herbert Morrison Announces U.K. to Push its Atomic Energy Programme (Hansard's, House of Commons, Oct. 30, 1945, col. 344)

Mr. Morrison: "Now that the war is over, it is naturally the intention and desire of His Majesty's Government to make plans for the development of the process in this country. We must know all we can about it, certainly in so far as there are potential economic uses for atomic energy of value to our country. To my mind it is undesirable that British should be behind in knowledge of the subject and its potentialities..."

3. Prime Minister Attlee Announces Plans for Production of Fissionable Material (Hansard, House of Commons, January 29, 1946, column 382).

The Prime Minister: "The House will recall that on October 29, last I announced that the Government had decided to set up a research and experimental establishment at Harwell, near Didcot, to be concerned with all aspects of the use of atomic energy. This establishment will require fissile material for its work, and the Government have accordingly had under consideration the most suitable organization for the production of such material for this and other purposes. The object in view will be to make available as speedily as possible material in sufficient quantity to enable us to take advantage rapidly of technical developments as they occur, and to develop our programme for the use of atomic energy, as circumstances may require. The production of these materials will be a responsibility of the Ministry of Supply and the appropriate organization is being set up within that Department.

"The choice of a suitable head for this organization is clearly a matter of supreme importance, and for this new post the Government have been fortunate in securing the services of Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Portal of Hungerford. I am also happy to be able to inform the House that a very distinguished scientist in the person of Professor J.D. Cockcroft has been selected for the post of director of the research establishment at Harwell. Professor Cockcroft is at present director of the Canadian experimental atomic energy plant, and it has been arranged with the Canadian authorities that he should remain in Canada for the time being until they have been able to appoint a successor to him in that capacity."

4. Minister of Supply Speaks on the Industrial Development of Atomic Energy (Hansard, House of Commons, March 28, 1946, col. 700)

The Minister of Supply (Mr. John Wilmot): "It has been decided that as much of the resources of this country as can possibly be made available shall be devoted to this work. It is the intention to marshal the very best brains in the country in solving the problems which confront us... The execution of this project, the main production plant, is a major technological effort.

"I was asked to state the money which the Government are prepared to spend upon it. I will say this: The limit of what we can do in this direction is a physical, and not a financial, limit. Whatever we can do we shall do."