

# On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 195

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COPY OF HANSARD LISTING  
GOVT. R+D. ESTABLISHMENTS  
INCL. WALTHAM ABBEY

ITEM VOL. 2

**Government Research Establishment**

Miss Pike asked the Minister of Technology if he will list all Government research establishments for which his Department is responsible, showing the location and date they were originally

established and showing for each the total staff, qualified scientists and engineers and others, and the cost to public funds of each during the current financial year.

Mr. Benn: Information about Ministry of Technology establishments is given in the tables below.

**A. INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENTS**

Name	Location	Year of Origin	Q.S.E.	Other Staff	Estimated Net Cost 1968-69 (£000s)
Fire Research Station ...	Boreham Wood ...	1946	36	148	226
Forest Products Research Laboratory.	Princes Risborough ...	1927	41	147	388
Hydraulics Research Laboratory	Wallingford ...	1947	43	210	103
Institute of Advanced Machine Tool and Control Technology.	Birniehill (Glasgow) ...	1967	18	12	153
Laboratory of the Government Chemist.	London (outstations at Bristol, Glasgow, Liverpool, Gosport, Cyprus, Germany (B.A.O.R.) and Singapore).	1911	103	308	886
National Engineering Laboratory.	East Kilbride (Glasgow) ...	1947	191	769	2,495
National Physical Laboratory...	Teddington, Feltham and Hythe (Hants.) ...	1900	427	1,293	2,422
Safety in Mines Research Establishment.	Sheffield and Buxton ...	1911	83	324	872
Torry Research Station ...	Aberdeen (also Humber Laboratory at Hull).	1929	36	179	519
Warren Spring Laboratory ...	Stevenage (also Scottish Office in Glasgow).	1959	96	353	1,221
Water Pollution Research Laboratory.	Stevenage ...	1939	49	154	456

**B. AVIATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHMENTS**

Name	Location	Year of Origin
Aeroplane and Armament Experimental Establishment	Boscombe Down, Amesbury, Wilts. ...	1917
Aircraft Torpedo Development Unit	Helston, Cornwall ...	1942
Explosives Research and Development Establishment	Waltham Abbey, Essex ...	1960
National Gas Turbine Establishment	Pyestock, Farnborough, Hants. ...	1956
Royal Aircraft Establishment	Farnborough, Hants. (outstations at Bedford, West Freugh, Llanbedr, Aberporth and Lark hill)	1905
Rocket Propulsion Establishment	Westcott, Bucks. ...	1946
Royal Radar Establishment	Malvern, Worcs. (outstation at Petshore) ...	1942
Signals Research and Development Establishment	Christchurch, Hants. ...	1943

Provision is made in the 1970-71 Estimates for a total staff of 17,000 at the aviation R. & D. establishments, including approximately 1,800 qualified scientists and engineers. The provision for net total expenditure is £45 million. It would not be in the public interest to publish precise figures of the staff and annual expenditure of each individual establishment.

Miss Pike asked the Minister of Technology what is the average cost of running the research establishments which come under his Department, for the most recent available year, expressed in pounds sterling per qualified researcher, showing a breakdown between salaries, equipment and buildings.

Mr. Benn: The estimated net cost per qualified scientist/engineer of running the

research establishments which are the direct responsibility of the Minister of Technology are as follows for 1969-70:

Salaries*	Equipment†	Buildings‡
£12,000	£6,900	£2,800

\* Includes remuneration of staff supporting the qualified scientists/engineers and general administrative expenses.

† Includes all stores and services.

‡ Includes maintenance and running costs.

**B.A.C. 3-11 Project**

Mr. Onslow asked the Minister of Technology if he will now make a further statement on the BAC 3-11 project.

Mr. Benn: I have recently received revised proposals for launching aid, and these are being considered.

**Research Programmes**

Miss Pike asked the Minister of Technology if he will list all the research programmes directly connected with defence or nuclear energy being carried out within the civil and research establishments of the Atomic Energy Authority; and if he will give an indication of the cumulative cost of each so far.

Mr. Benn: Expenditure on the authority's research and development programmes is analysed in the authority's annual reports. The cumulative costs of the major reactor development programmes up to 31st March, 1970 are approximately as follows:

	£ million
Magnox	21
Gas-cooled systems Mark II	111
Gas-cooled systems Mark III	6
Water-moderated systems	72
Fast systems	123

The cumulative cost of fusion programmes is estimated as £48 million. Final figures will be given in the annual report for 1969-70. Expenditure on other work in support of power reactors and their fuel, on applied nuclear and underlying research work is not broken down into separate programmes. Particulars of defence research cannot be given.

**Cammell Laird (Reorganisation)**

Mr. Brooks asked the Minister of Technology whether he will now make a statement on the reorganisation of the firm of Cammell Laird following the recent intervention by his Department