

WASC 655

On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 655

WASC 655

CRDC's enormous potential
Economic value to nation

Chesnut and Hartman
Weekly Telegraph

Friday August 29 1969

Cheshunt and Waltham
Weekly Telegraph
Friday August 29th 1969.

E.R.D.E.'s ENORMOUS POTENTIAL ECONOMIC VALUE TO NATION

Minister tells
Weekly Telegraph
of vital work

ESTABLISHMENT'S FUTURE

WALTHAM Abbey's famous and historic Explosives Research and Development Establishment was congratulated on Thursday of last week by Mr. Gerald T. Fowler, joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Technology. After meeting heads of the scientific branches during his first visit to the establishment, he told Weekly Telegraph reporter Alan Symes that E.R.D.E. had a magnificent record and was of enormous potential economic benefit to the nation.

Asked whether the future of E.R.D.E. was secure, Mr. Fowler replied: "The work that this establishment does in the defence field is vital.

"It has developed steadily a series of civilian applications for its work which ensure the place of that work in any sensible organisation of national economic resources."

He pointed out: "We are very keen in the Ministry of Technology to see the potential civil industrial benefit of defence research work realised and in the past this has not always been the case."

Thirty-four-year-old Mr. Fowler, who is the second youngest member of the Government, mentioned the development at E.R.D.E. of carbon fibres and "whiskers" — a texture of silicon carbide and silicon nitride wool.

"You have here potential new materials of great stiffness and comparatively little weight which will have a wide variety of industrial applications," said Mr. Fowler.

These composite materials, reinforced by discontinuous fibres, can be used in light-weight, load-bearing structures. Mr. Fowler indicated that they had an obvious application in the space field.

ADVISED AMERICANS

E.R.D.E., which is the only Government establishment for research into rocket propellants and the chemistry of explosives, had given advice to the Americans in certain fields, Mr. Fowler revealed.

It was to the credit of E.R.D.E. that "we can still stay ahead in certain areas."

Asked whether there were any plans to expand their work, Mr. Fowler said: "Much depends on what the establishment produces.

"If their work throws up an interesting and economically valuable new field then, of course, we shall be keen to carry it to the point where industry can take it up and the whole country can benefit."

E.R.D.E.'s ENORMOUS POTENTIAL ECONOMIC VALUE TO NATION

Minister tells
Weekly Telegraph
of vital work

ESTABLISHMENT'S FUTURE

WALTHAM Abbey's famous and historic Explosives Research and Development Establishment was congratulated on Thursday of last week by Mr. Gerald T. Fowler, joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Technology. After meeting heads of the scientific branches during his first visit to the establishment, he told Weekly Telegraph reporter Alan Symes that E.R.D.E. had a magnificent record and was of enormous potential economic benefit to the nation.

Asked whether the future of E.R.D.E. was secure, Mr. Fowler replied: "The work that this establishment does in the defence field is vital.

"It has developed steadily a series of civilian applications for its work which ensure the place of that work in any sensible organisation of national economic resources."

He pointed out: "We are very keen in the Ministry of Technology to see the potential civil industrial benefit of defence research work realised and in the past this has not always been the case."

Thirty-four-year-old Mr. Fowler, who is the second youngest member of the Government, mentioned the development at E.R.D.E. of carbon fibres and "whiskers" — a texture of silicon carbide and silicon nitride wool.

"You have here potential new materials of great stiffness and comparatively little weight which will have a wide variety of industrial applications," said Mr. Fowler.

These composite materials, reinforced by discontinuous fibres, can be used in light-weight, load-bearing structures. Mr. Fowler indicated that they had an obvious application in the space field.

ADVISED AMERICANS

E.R.D.E., which is the only Government establishment for research into rocket propellants and the chemistry of explosives, had given advice to the Americans in certain fields, Mr. Fowler revealed.

It was to the credit of E.R.D.E. that "we can still stay ahead in certain areas."

Asked whether there were any plans to expand their work, Mr. Fowler said: "Much depends on what the establishment produces.

"If their work throws up an interesting and economically valuable new field then, of course, we shall be keen to carry it to the point where industry can take it up and the whole country can benefit."