

Opening by the Prime Minister at  
the EURKA Ministerial Conference  
in London 9 June 1985.

## EUROPEAN POLICY

January 1986

[illegible]

## Cabinet / Cabinet Committee Document

The following document, which was enclosed on this file, has been removed and destroyed. Such documents are the responsibility of the Cabinet Office. When released they are available in the appropriate **CAB (CABINET OFFICE) CLASSES**.

Reference: CC (86) 26th Conclusions, Minute 3

Date: 3 July 1986

Signed

Wayland

Date

1 October 2015

**PREM Records Team**



1. Mr. Powell  
2. Prime Minister

cc TB/CP  
cc Mr. Howe

#### EUREKA CONFERENCE

You are addressing the Eureka Conference at 0915 on Monday 30 June. The Conference is being held at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre.

Mr. Pattie proposes the following programme for your brief visit.

- (1) You arrive shortly before 0915. You will be met at the Centre by Mr. Pattie and Mr. Channon and led to your seat. By then the 40 Ministers, other Conference participants and Press - amounting in total to about 600 - will be seated.
- (2) The lights will dim and a 3½ minute audio visual will be shown. I saw this with Mr. Pattie today. It is an impressionistic, colourful and up-beat piece. There is no voice-over, but a sequence of changing pictures to give a feeling of the wide range of work which Eureka projects can cover, and the different countries associated with it. I think it will be a useful way to prime people up for your speech.
- (3) When the audio visual is finished, the lectern and four chairs will be set up on the platform. This will take only a few seconds, and you will be able to walk up to the platform and take your place immediately. Your speech follows.
- (4) At the end of the speech, you will leave the platform and the auditorium, followed by the Ministers, who will be introduced to you one by one in a separate room. The photocall follows, and you then leave the Conference Centre for No.10.

Content with these arrangements? In particular -

- Will  
be done
- (i) Agree to speak after the short audio visual (I think it should be done that way round - it is really a fanfare for the conference and your speech)?
  - (ii) Agree not to use the autocue (which would be difficult to set up in what's bound to be a very short gap between the audio visual and your speech)?

The whole programme should not involve you being out of No.10 for more than three-quarters of an hour.

Mark Addison

Mark Addison

16 June 1986

JALAVY



JK  
no blue folder



9/16 JA

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

30 May 1986

You wrote on 29 May to Mark Addison about the programme for the opening of the EUREKA Ministerial meeting. This seems perfectly acceptable. My main concern is to have a draft speech in good time given the large number of speaking engagements which the Prime Minister has in late June and early July. I should be grateful if you could ensure that the draft reaches me no later than Monday 9 June.

I am copying this letter to Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and to David Williamson (Cabinet Office).

(Charles Powell)

Michael Gilbertson, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry.

OK



Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
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LONDON SW1H 0ET

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(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

29 May 1986

CONFIDENTIAL

Mark Addison Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

Chen

For your libk.

MEM 30/5

Dear Mark,

Following your conversation with Catherine Bradley earlier in the month, we are now in a position to let you have an outline programme for the Prime Minister when she opens the EUREKA Conference on 30 June.

As you will see from the attachment, Mr Channon envisages that the Prime Minister's involvement will consist primarily of giving an Opening Address followed by a photocall with all Ministers present. Apart from the UK there are 18 members of EUREKA nearly all of whom will be represented by two Ministers each; among these will be Genscher, Andreotti, Raimond and Tindemans. There will be an opportunity for the Prime Minister to greet the more senior visitors after her speech and before the photocall. Sir Geoffrey Howe will also be present at the Opening.

The programme allows for the possible screening of a very short audio-visual (on-screen) presentation about the aims of the EUREKA initiative which would set the scene for the Conference and lead naturally on to the Prime Minister's address. We will not be able to decide how - if at all - this should be used at the Conference until the final version is available early next month. I shall let you know when whether we think it suitable as a curtain-raiser at the start of the Conference and, if we do, we shall make sure it is available for the Prime Minister to view before then, if she wishes.

Yours ever,  
Michael

MICHAEL GILBERTSON  
Private Secretary

DW1BHQ

1786  
1986  
BOARD OF TRADE  
BICENTENARY





·MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE·LONDON·30 JUNE 1986·

CONFIDENTIAL

**EUREKA CONFERENCE**

**PROGRAMME FOR THE PRIME MINISTER**

9.15	Leave No 10
9.18	Arrive Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre Greeted by Mr Channon and Mr Pattie Photographers at entrance
9.20	Enter Churchill Auditorium via Sanctuary Foyer
9.22	Take seat prior to screening of audio-visual
[9.22-26]	Audio-visual]
9.26	Escorted to rostrum by Mr Channon and Mr Pattie
9.27	Introduction by Mr Channon
9.28-43	Prime Minister gives Opening Address
9.44	Leave Churchill Auditorium
9.45	Arrive Sanctuary Foyer
9.45-55	Other ministers assemble; photocall
9.56	Escorted to car by Mr Channon
9.57	Leave Conference Centre
10000	Arrive No 10

EUREKA Conference Team

22 May 1986



Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

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LONDON SW1H 0ET

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(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

23 April 1986

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe MP  
Secretary of State for  
Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office  
Downing Street  
London SW1

*Dear Geoffrey*

EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

You said in your minute of 14 March that the extent of your participation in the EUREKA Ministerial Conference would depend in particular upon which other countries would be sending Foreign Ministers.

The position is now becoming clearer; the attached list compiled by the EUREKA Conference Team shows that six Foreign Ministers (including Andreotti and Tindemans) have so far indicated that they will attend. Predictably, however, the French and Germans have made clear that the presence of their Foreign Ministers is likely to depend on whether you will be taking part.

I should be grateful to know whether you will attend the Conference. In any event, I very much hope that you can join me in acting as host at the eve of Conference dinner. Since we are now under some pressure from other countries to confirm which United Kingdom Ministers will be involved, it would be helpful if you could let me have an early indication of your views.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yms*  
PAUL CHANNON

*Paul*  
17 19 86  
BOARD OF TRADE  
BICENTENARY



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**REPLIES FROM EMBASSIES ON MINISTERIAL ATTENDANCE AT  
THE EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE : 30 JUNE 1986  
(As at 17 April 1986)**

**AUSTRIA:-**

- |                  |   |                                   |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Mr Leopold Gratz | - | Minister for Foreign Affairs      |
| Dr Heinz Fischer | - | Minister for Science and Research |

**BELGIUM:-**

- |                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| Mr Leo Tindemans | - | Minister for External Relations  |
| Mr Verhofstadt   | - | Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for<br>Scientific Policy and Planning |

**DENMARK:-**

- |                   |   |                        |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| Mr Nils Vilhjelm  | - | Minister for Industry  |
| Mr Bertel Haarder | - | Minister for Education |

**FINLAND:-**

- |                   |   |                                 |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Mr Seppo Lindblom | - | Minister for Trade and Industry |
|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|

**GREECE:-**

- |                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Mr Theodore Pangalos | - | Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs                 |
| Mrs Vasso Papandreou | - | Under Secretary for Industry, Energy<br>and Technology |

**IRELAND:-**

- |                   |   |                                    |
|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Mr Peter Barry    | - | Minister for Foreign Affairs       |
| Mr Michael Noonan | - | Minister for Industry and Commerce |

**ITALY:-**

- |                     |   |                                  |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Mr Giulio Andreotti | - | Minister for Foreign Affairs     |
| Mr Luigi Granelli   | - | Minister for Scientific Research |

**LUXEMBOURG:-**

- |                    |   |   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Mr Fernand Boden   | - | Minister for Education  |
| Mr Robert Goebbels | - | Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,<br>Trade and Commerce |

NETHERLANDS:-

- |                       |   |  |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Mr G M V Van Aardenne | - | Vice Premier and Minister for Economic Affairs |
| Mr W J Deetman        | - | Minister for Education and Science             |

PORTUGAL:-

- |                               |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Mr Pedro Pires Miranda        | - | Minister for Foreign Affairs               |
| Professor Arantes De Oliveira | - | Secretary of State for Scientific Research |

SPAIN:-

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Mr Joan Majo        | - | Minister for Industry and Energy  |
| Mr Luis Yanez       | - | Secretary of State for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| Mr Juan Manuel Rojo | - | Secretary of State for Education  |

SWEDEN:-

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Mr Mats Hellström   | - | Minister for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| Mr Thage G Peterson | - | Minister of Industry                                    |

TURKEY:-

- |                        |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Mr Vahit Halefoglu     | - | Minister for Foreign Affairs                |
| Mr Mustafa Tinaz Titiz | - | Minister of State for Technological Affairs |

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:-

- |                      |   |                |
|----------------------|---|----------------|
| Mr Karl-Heinz Narjes | - | Vice President |
|----------------------|---|----------------|





From the Minister of State  
for Industry and Information Technology

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
1-19 VICTORIA STREET  
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(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

JEFFREY PATTIE MP

Charles Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

27<sup>th</sup> March 1986

Dear Charles,

JA  
1/4

EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Thank you for your letter of 20 February in which you asked me to see whether the Trade and Industry Secretary or the Foreign Secretary might host a dinner on Sunday 29 June for Ministers attending the Eureka Conference. I can confirm that one or both of them will host such a dinner but, as you can see from the attached minute from the Foreign Secretary, the choice of host will be made when the representation level of other delegations is clearer.

I hope to be able to give you a definitive answer in a couple of weeks.

I am copying this letter to Colin Budd.

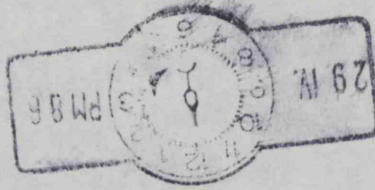
Yours sincerely,

Tim Abraham

T P ABRAHAM  
PRIVATE SECRETARY

AP1/AP1AAB

EURO POL GURSKA 1/86







From the Minister of State  
for Industry and Information Technology

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JEFFREY PATTIE MP

Charles Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

27<sup>th</sup> March 1986

Dear Charles,

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Yours sincerely,

Tim Abraham

T P ABRAHAM  
PRIVATE SECRETARY

AP1/AP1AAB

8891nd 22: Eureka Conference: Jan 1980

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
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Telephone (01-219) 0121  
Cable: 219  
(The Department) (01-219) 1211



For the Secretary of State  
for Trade and Industry

11th January 1980

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in response to your letter of 27th December 1979.

I am sorry that I cannot give you a more definitive answer at this time.

I am sure that you will understand my position.

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FCS/86/070

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE & INDUSTRY

Eureka Ministerial Conference

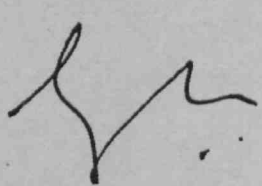
1. I am pleased to hear that arrangements for the Eureka Conference on 30 June are going ahead. I very much hope to be present at the opening.

2. You will naturally wish to settle Ministerial attendance at the eve of Conference dinner and the lunch as soon as possible. I would prefer however to take a decision on my own involvement in the light of how other countries will be represented at the Conference, and in particular which other Foreign Ministers intend to come. I propose to look again in mid-April, by when we should, I understand, have a clear picture of likely attendance.

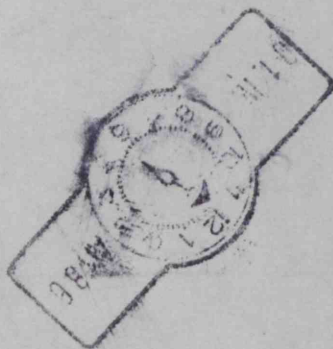
/at this

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

14 March 1986

  
GEOFFREY HOWE

EUR. POL: Eureka Conference; Jan 1986.





CONFIDENTIAL

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bc PC

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

20 February 1986

**EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**

Thank you for your letter of 20 February about the arrangements for the Eureka Ministerial Conference. I am most reluctant to press the Prime Minister to give a dinner on the Sunday evening for Ministers attending the Conference given her very heavy engagements at that time. I believe that President Mitterrand did not do so when the Eureka Ministerial Meeting was held in France. Might I suggest that you see whether the Trade and Industry Secretary or the Foreign Secretary would be able to take this on in the Prime Minister's place.

(Charles Powell)

T.P. Abraham, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry.

CONFIDENTIAL

Bay

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From the Minister of State  
for Industry and Information Technology

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GEOFFREY PATTIE MP

Charles Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

20<sup>th</sup> February 1986

Dear Charles,

**EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**

Thank you for your letter of 11<sup>th</sup> February indicating that the Prime Minister has agreed to open the Conference on Monday 30 June at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre. Mr Pattie is most grateful that she has been able to find time in what will be a particularly busy period for her internationally.

The dinner is something we will be expected to offer for Ministerial Heads of Delegation (both the French and the Germans offered one at the Eureka Conference they hosted last year). Despite the very modest extra expenditure we think that it would best be held on the Sunday evening; some Ministers may have to leave on the Monday as soon as the substantive business of the Conference has been concluded. The cost (borne by the Government Hospitality Fund) would I understand be around £2-3,000; the additional cost of holding it on Sunday being of the order of £200.

It would as you know be very warmly appreciated if the Prime Minister could host the dinner. In that case the choice of location would be between Lancaster House, the Whitehall Banqueting House or No 10 itself. We would be grateful if you could let us know whether you have any preference, in the event that the Prime Minister would be able to take this on.

FE3/FE3ABR

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BOARD OF TRADE  
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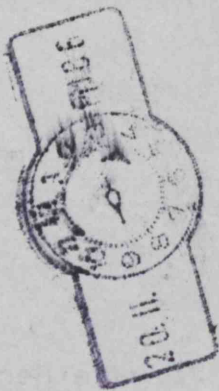
I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, Wales and Scotland and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Tim Abraham*

T P ABRAHAM  
PRIVATE SECRETARY

FE3/FE3ABR



EURO POL

Eureka Cont. 1986

COMMISSION



CONFIDENTIAL



File 4/6  
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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

11 February 1986

EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The Prime Minister has considered Mr. Pattie's minute of 7 February dealing with the question of dates for the EUREKA Ministerial Conference.

The Prime Minister agrees to open the Conference on Monday, 30 June at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre. She regrets, however, that she cannot host a lunch that day. It might be possible for her to host a dinner the preceding Sunday evening though you will wish to bear in mind that holding a dinner on the Sunday very considerably increases the cost (I believe that double time has to be paid). You may like to consider whether it would be sufficient for the Prime Minister to open the Conference and for somebody else to host a lunch on the Monday.

I have also to point out that 30 June is immediately after the European Council in The Hague (26-28 June) and the Prime Minister will have to make a statement on that to the House on either 30 June or 1 July. She will, therefore, have only very limited time indeed for working on her opening speech for the EUREKA Conference. It will be essential for a draft of that speech to reach me no later than Tuesday, 10 June.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, Wales and Scotland and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

CHARLES POWELL

Tim Abraham, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry.

CONFIDENTIAL

Tim Abraham

①



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

Eureka.

There is a

supplementary which

I forgot to ask:

would you be

prepared to host a

dinner for participants

the preceding evening (Sunday

29 June)? [You can't host a

lunch on 30 June]. Yes  
CDP. no



PRIME MINISTER

EUREKA

You agreed to open this Ministerial Conference in London. But we seem to be fated over dates.

We proposed 13 June at the new International Conference Centre.

*Temporarily retained  
Prog - S 15/5/16*

If it is to be 13 June it will therefore have to be at Lancaster House - which is not exactly representative of high technology.

The only alternative date when we could do it at the new Conference Centre is 30 June. But that's right after the European Council (26/28 June) and you will have to make a statement on 1 July. So there won't be much time for making up the speech (though equally it should not be a difficult one).

It's not an easy choice. Geoffrey Pattie much prefers the 30 June date in the new Conference Centre. I don't think there's much in it.

Agree either:

(a) 13 June at Lancaster House?

or

(b) 30 June at the new Conference Centre? ✓

C.D.P.

ms

CHARLES POWELL  
7 February 1986  
EL3AWJ

CONFIDENTIAL



TO:

PRIME MINISTER

FROM:

GEOFFREY PATTIE

7 February 1986

TEMPORARILY RETAINED J. Gray 16/5/16

THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS  
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4)  
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

## EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

You will recall that Leon Brittan minuted you on 15 January asking you to open the Ministerial conference which will conclude our period in the chair of the EUREKA initiative. As Leon explained then, the meeting will be a substantial political event and will involve one or two senior Ministers, including many Foreign Ministers, of each of the 18 countries participating. It will follow the two previous EUREKA meetings at Ministerial level which were opened by President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl.

I understand that you have agreed to open the conference on 13 June. Unfortunately, in the last few days it has become clear that a high profile conference at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre so soon before the Queen officially opens the Centre on 24 June would not be welcome

We are thus left with two options.

The first is to hold the conference on 13 June at Lancaster House. This has the advantage of not delaying the meeting any more than necessary; the UK will have held the "chair" since last November, much longer than France and Germany, and there are some fears that the EUREKA initiative will begin to lose momentum if the well publicised meeting is





delayed too far. The major disadvantage of this option is however the location: Lancaster House. Elegant though it is, it is hardly conducive to the high technology theme of EUREKA. More significantly, its facilities are greatly inferior to those of the Queen Elizabeth II Centre: it would mean using too narrow a conference room, and having some delegation rooms and all of the press, so important on an occasion such as this, in other buildings.

The alternative would be to hold the conference on 30 June at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre which, a week after the official opening, should be fully functional. The disadvantage of this option would be the extra delay, although it is only just over a fortnight later and is, significantly, still in June. It is also closer to the season when some Europeans, notably the Scandinavians, take their holidays. Nonetheless the great advantage in venue and the fact that this would be the first major use of the new Centre in my mind more than outweigh any disadvantages that this option might have.

I appreciate that the end of June is a particularly busy time for you but your involvement in this meeting would be restricted to an opening speech and, if you were able, to hosting either dinner the night before or lunch on the day itself for the Ministers attending.

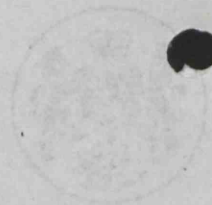
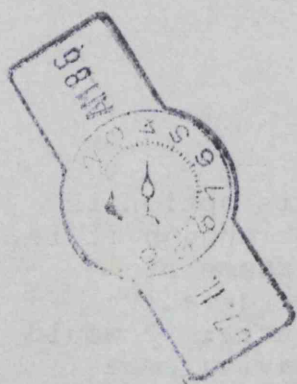
Your presence at the opening of such an important conference would create just the right tone for the meeting and underline the importance the UK attaches to the EUREKA initiative. I do hope you will be able to undertake this engagement.

I am copying this minute to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, for Wales and for Scotland and Sir Robert Armstrong.

GEOFFREY PATTIE

FEL/FELAEF

Kurdo Pol  
KUREKA  
Jan 16







10 DOWNING STREET

Charles.

We can do 30/6 but, as I've explained to D?1, it is far from ideal. The European Council is according to the diary due to run from evening of 26 June to morning of Saturday 28. There will  $\therefore$  be a statement, possibly on the Monday 30<sup>th</sup>, but probably on the Tuesday.

So the time for preparing the speech will be very short and, it will have to be done before the Euro Council. If the statement is to be Monday, neither will be so much worse.

We shall have to put it to the PM. On paper I fear, we have nothing much left next week. MBK 7/2



10 DOWNING STREET

Rats

Can we do  
Eurecha on  
30 June?

CDD





JU272  
Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
1-19 VICTORIA STREET  
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(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

Mark Addison Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

Dear Mark,

#### EUREKA: MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

On 16 January Charles Powell wrote to John Mogg saying that the Prime Minister would be content to open the EUREKA Ministerial Conference in London and that 9 June would suit her well.

We have accordingly decided to arrange a one-day Conference on that date. As you know, we had originally envisaged a two-day event, on 9 - 10 June, but 10 June clashes with an EC Research Council. In any case, a single day for EUREKA will allow adequate discussions and will be consistent with the previous Conferences in Paris and Hanover last year.

Apart from the Prime Minister's opening speech, my Secretary of State is sure that visiting Ministers would warmly appreciate it if she were able to host the Ministerial dinner which we plan for 8 June or, failing that, the luncheon on the day of the meeting itself. I should be grateful if you would let me know whether either is likely to prove possible.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, for Scotland and for Wales, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely,

*C Bradley*

CATHERINE BRADLEY  
Private Secretary

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BICENTENARY

Euro Pol

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

10 VICTORIA STREET

LONDON SW1H 0ET

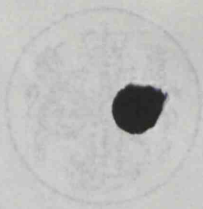
Telephone: 01-235 8511

Telex: 235 8511

Cable: 235 8511

KURBEKA

JAN 86



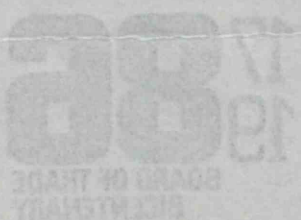
FOREIGN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

On 12 January 1986, the Foreign Ministers of the European Community met in Brussels for a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the European Community.

The meeting was held in the presence of the President of the Council, Mr. G. de Mitterand, and the President of the Commission, Mr. J. Delors.

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CONFIDENTIAL



JK

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

16 January 1986

**EUREKA: MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**

The Prime Minister has considered the Trade and Industry Secretary's minute of 15 January proposing that she should open the EUREKA Ministerial Conference in the United Kingdom.

The Prime Minister is content to do so and 9 June would suit her well. She agrees that The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London should be used if possible.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, for Scotland and Wales, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment and Sir Robert Armstrong.

C D POWELL

John Mogg, Esq.,  
Department of Trade and Industry

JK



CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

①  
~~SECRET~~  
Prime Minister  
Agree to open the  
Eureka Ministerial  
Meeting in London  
in June.

Yes

COP  
15/1

EUREKA : MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

As you know we are now the host country for meetings of the EUREKA countries. Our period in the chair will culminate in a Ministerial conference in May/June, at which 17 European countries will be represented.

2 I will chair the conference, which Geoffrey Howe also plans to attend. We both think it important that you should open it.

3 It will be a substantial political event. The two previous Eureka meetings at Ministerial level, in Paris and Hanover, were opened respectively by President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl. Your presence at the third would underline the importance we attach to EUREKA as a vehicle for developing a European capability in new technology which can compete effectively in world markets with the United States and Japan. And it would powerfully reinforce our drive (which so far has been largely successful) to focus the whole initiative on business-led, sales-oriented collaborative ventures and on practical action by Governments to open the European market up.

DWLAIS





CONFIDENTIAL

...

4 We have examined a range of possible venues, including locations in Scotland and Wales. A detailed note on these is attached. It is clear that no suitable premises are available outside London in May or early June. So we propose to use the new Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London which will, I understand, be fully operational by then (Lancaster House being a fallback possibility if the Queen Elizabeth II Centre were not after all ready in time).

5 As regards dates, we can choose any two days between mid-May and mid-June which are feasible in terms of your commitments and the wider international calendar. Your diary, I understand, points to 9-10 June as the front-running possibilities; (your own attendance of course being on 9 June only, involving an opening speech and - optionally - a press conference, and lunch for Ministers present).

6 We are urgently exploring with the Dutch, as Community presidency, the scope for rescheduling two EC meetings at Ministerial level which are currently planned for these two dates and which, if they go ahead, would rule out 9-10 June for EUREKA. My office will be in touch with yours about this within the next day or two. Needless to say, if we cannot in the event go for 9 June I very much hope you will be able to manage an alternative within the period I have mentioned.

DWLAIS



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7 I am sending copies of this minute and enclosure to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretaries of State for the Environment, for Scotland and for Wales, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

L.B.

L B

15 January 1986

Department of Trade & Industry

DWLAIS



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EUREKA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, SUMMER 1986

Prime Minister's availability

It is highly desirable that the Conference should be opened by the Prime Minister. Current advice from No 10 on her availability is

- (a) during the Scottish Conservative Party Conference in Perth, 14-16 May
- (b) Monday 9 June
- (c) Wednesday 9 July.

Her participation would be limited to the formal opening (a speaking engagement) and - optionally - a press conference and hosting the subsequent Ministerial luncheon. We understand that she would expect to devote only a minimum of time in getting to the conference centre.

Scotland

- 2. The Scottish option ((a) above) has not proved practicable.
- 3. Edinburgh is unable to provide a suitable conference room and could only with great difficulty furnish delegation rooms, whose location would, moreover, be dispersed. Furthermore, since most of the facilities would be based at the University, the Foreign Office advise that appropriate security would be very difficult to arrange.
- 4. Gleneagles, which has been used for a Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting and a NATO Ministerial meeting, could accommodate the conference but is not available.
- 5. Glasgow's new Scottish Exhibition Centre is geared to handle commercial exhibitions and events rather than provide the

intimacy required for a major Ministerial conference. Although it is likely to be available, a great deal of work - and therefore expenditure - would be needed to convert the relevant part of it into, at best, a utilitarian and none too roomy venue and, at worst, a location whose potential layout and technical deficiencies would invite damaging criticism.

6. Inverness possesses a modern conference centre (used recently to host the EC/ACP Parliamentary Joint Assembly) the main hall of which would accommodate opening/closing events. It could only with difficulty be adapted to provide space for a conference room - there is nothing tailor-made - and there are insufficient delegation rooms. Hotel accommodation is likely to be of insufficiently high standard. In addition, there is no specifically hi-tech message associated in locating at Inverness to offset the disadvantages and transport difficulties.

#### Outside London

7. The nature of the Prime Minister's availability on 9 June and 9 July strongly suggest a London or near-London location. Bearing in mind, however, the interest of other Ministers in non-London locations, we have examined what is on offer elsewhere in the UK on the basis that the major party/congress locations (Brighton, Bournemouth and Blackpool) do not convey the appropriate image and that it is not worth running the security risk of universities particularly in term time. The result is predictable - most centres cannot provide a suitable conference room or delegation rooms or both.

8. Harrogate might be a possibility, although during the search for the location for the 1984 Economic Summit it transpired that it had no obvious meeting place, was potentially depressing in poor weather, and had less than top class hotel accommodation.

9. The Birmingham National Exhibition Centre does not itself cater for conferences, leaving those to the two immediately adjacent hotels (the Metropole and Warwick). The Metropole is adding a new conference room - of a size suitable for



EUREKA - which is due for completion on 30 May. It has other facilities suitable for opening/closing ceremonies and appears on paper - to be able to provide press, delegation and suitable catering facilities. The main drawback lies in the hotel accommodation itself in that there are only 12 suites to meet a demand of 40 (2 Ministers per delegation) although other hotels in the surrounding area could also be used. The NEC hotels are not now however available for 9-10 June.

10. Milton Keynes was suggested but the Development Corporation advise that suitable facilities do not exist.

11. St David's Hall, Cardiff, would provide an attractive auditorium but is near two universities. It could provide a conference room with associated rooms capable of use by delegations, but is due for extensive refurbishment beginning in June. Cardiff is therefore unlikely to provide facilities of the appropriate standard.

#### London

12. The Wembley Conference Centre has satisfactory facilities for the conference room and opening/closing ceremonies but cannot provide sufficient delegation rooms. In addition it is a serious security risk by virtue of being overlooked on several sides. It is neither practicable nor prestigious enough in itself to overcome its lack-lustre suburban location; nor is it available on either 9-10 June or 9-10 July.

13. The Barbican Centre cannot provide a suitable conference room since its major facilities are in the fixed auditorium seating format.

14. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) on the Albert Embankment, which is being used for the High Level Group meetings, can provide only for raked, curved seating facing a top table (rather than the hollow Brussels-style table we need). In addition it cannot provide the necessary delegation rooms.

15. The new Anugraha Conference Centre, near Windsor, is possibly capable of taking the conference - although there would be spill-over into nearby hotels and separate arrangements for the press. It is not however available for 9-10 June or 9-10 July.

16. Leeds Castle (4 miles from Maidstone, Kent; 15 minutes by helicopter from Gatwick), which has been used for several major conferences, provides secluded discussion facilities, and top-class accommodation for relatively restricted numbers (44 bedrooms). It is available for 9-10 June (including the necessary preparatory period) but not for 9-10 July. The nearby Great Danes Hotel (walking distance) with 138 bedrooms would just cope with the officially listed delegations, with more distant hotels for lesser officials and press. Catering and press conferences could be managed at the Castle itself. Leeds provide a secure venue in an attractive traditional setting. It may not however convey quite the right image in that it is not hi-tech (although it has fully up-to-date facilities) and puts a premium on close working relationships between delegates. A rather less pressured environment is likely to be more appropriate for the Eureka Conference. The cost is likely to be about £50,000 for 7 days rental (4 days preparation, 2 days conference, 1 day dismantling).

17. Lancaster House is a traditional venue for major conferences and could accommodate Eureka, including the requirement for 20 delegation rooms. It is available for 9-10 June (including the necessary preparatory period) but not for 9-10 July. The configuration of the impressive Long Gallery would enforce the use of a long narrow conference table much of which would be far away from the interpreters' booths at the other end. The opening and closing ceremony, and press facilities, would be required elsewhere (especially as the PSA has now relinquished the lease on the St James Press Centre) eg Connaught Rooms or, if they were available, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors on Birdcage Walk. Lancaster



House would provide a sumptuous conference and dining environment which might however seem old-fashioned in the Eureka hi-tech context. The atmosphere would be less intense than Leeds Castle, and visitors could be allocated to top London hotels (or might use Ambassadors' residencies). The rental of Lancaster House would be about £26,000 (for 2 days of conference and 2 days preparation) plus an additional sum for press facilities.

18. The new Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, opposite the Abbey, would host the conference superbly - which is to be expected as it has been designed to provide a fully secure facility for VIP meetings with a full range of supporting accommodation and services, including catering of all types, full press facilities and a hall for opening/closing events. It is now in the final stages of completion and the PSA are taking bookings from the beginning of June. The Centre is definitely available for 9-10 June (but is already subject to provisional bookings for 9-10 July).

19. The QE II Conference Centre is modern, hi-tech and on one site - and will be the only one of its kind in the UK; it is the best site for the Conference. The Eureka Conference would be its first major user - in advance of the official opening by HM The Queen (24 June). The cost for the whole building (which is what is required) will be about £25,000 for 2 days (as it is tailor made, no preparation charge is made).

20. Should the completion of the centre be delayed, Lancaster House would serve as a satisfactory fallback.

9 January 1986

Principal Accommodation Requirements

Conference Room

- 40+ round table (based on 2 Ministers per delegation)
- plus up to 160 officials in attendance (room size minimum is 60ft square or equivalent)
- simultaneous interpretation into 5 languages

Opening/Closing Ceremony

- auditorium for all delegates and officials (well over 200)
- with media in attendance (allow up to 300)
- S.I. into 5 languages

Ministerial/Delegation rooms

- each delegation to have its own small office
- each Minister to have a room

Media facilities

- Press Office with full facilities
- Press Briefing Rooms

Presidency

- Chairman's room
- Secretariat offices (secretaries, translation, reproduction)
- Conference organisation office

Catering

- Heads of Delegation
- Officials
- Media

Overnight

- Suites for each Minister



PPS somewhere?  
see x



EC

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

SIR ROBIN NICHOLSON

**EUREKA**

DTI X  
Thank you for your minute of 7 January. I am as you know in touch with Tim Abraham to try and find a suitable slot in the diary for the Prime Minister to attend the EUREKA Conference. I understand that Tim is still considering 9 June, but we have also offered him 9 July, and I hope that one or the other will prove to be satisfactory. If not, rest assured we shall keep trying.

**MARK ADDISON**

8 January 1986

de



Chak TA 9/7?  
RW

W0881

MR ADDISON - No. 10

7 January 1986

EUREKA

As you know, the United Kingdom has assumed the Chairmanship of EUREKA and will be responsible for organising the next EUREKA Ministerial Conference. We have told the other EUREKA countries that this will probably take place in May or June but have not yet put forward a venue or a definite date. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry plans to chair the meeting and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary will attend for part of the time.

The first EUREKA Ministerial Conference held in Paris in June last year was opened by President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl made the opening address to the second Conference held in Hanover in November. I believe it would be entirely appropriate for the Prime Minister to open the Conference in the United Kingdom and I expect that Mr Brittan and Sir Geoffrey Howe will be minuting very shortly to ask her to do this. It would involve a brief meeting with the Heads of visiting delegations (mainly Foreign or Research or Industry Ministers) and a short speech of around fifteen minutes on the theme of European competitiveness in high technology industry.

I understand that the Prime Minister's diary is already very congested in May and June. The idea of holding the meeting in Scotland from 14-16 May when the Prime Minister will be attending the Scottish Conservative Party Conference now looks impractical and the only other date which has been offered (9 June) would involve a clash with EC Industry and Research Councils. I well recognise your



difficulties but believe that the Prime Minister's attendance at the EUREKA Conference would be an effective and worthwhile use of her time and, if the meeting can be arranged in London, need take up only a couple of hours. I understand that your next diary meeting will be on 13 January and I hope it might then be possible to identify some alternative times when the Prime Minister might be available.

RBN.

SIR ROBIN NICHOLSON  
Chief Scientific Adviser



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