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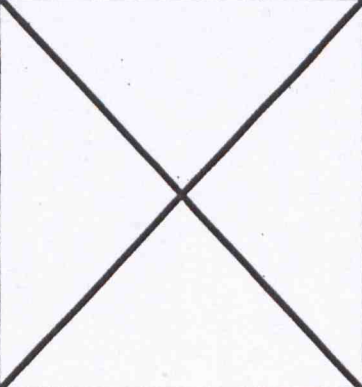
The Royal Visit to Brussels : November 1980

QUEEN

JUNE 1980

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
23.7.80							
3.11.80							
20.11.89							
PREM 19/2829							

A The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i> PIECE/ITEM <i>2829</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: <i>Burns to Alexander dated 20 November 1989 with attachments</i>	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	<i>21/11/2016</i> <i>G. Gray</i>
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Instructions for completion of Dummy Card

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Enter the department and series,
eg. HO 405, J 82.

Enter the piece and item references, .
eg. 28, 1079, 84/1, 107/3

Enter extract details if it is an extract rather than a whole piece.

This should be an indication of what the extract is,

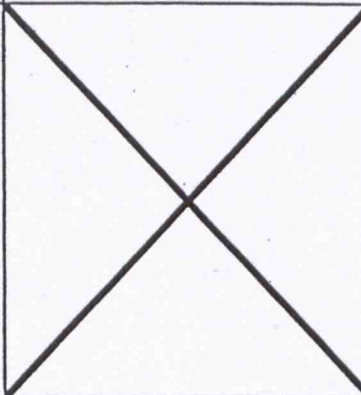
eg. Folio 28, Indictment 840079, E107, Letter dated 22/11/1995.

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DEPARTMENT/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i> PIECE/ITEM <i>2829</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: <i>Compliments slip dated 3 November 1989 covering the list of the party to Brussels and the draft programme</i>	
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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 July 1980

Dear Michael,

Royal Visit to Brussels

Thank you for your letter of 30 June in which you said that the Prime Minister would like to be assured that the likely state of negotiations on the Common Fisheries Policy had been taken into account before giving her agreement.

The possibility that the fisheries negotiations could be in an active state at the time of the visit had indeed been taken into account. Lord Carrington does not, however, think that this should prevent the visit from going ahead in November as previously planned. The reason we advised postponing the visit until the budget negotiations were over was that the budget question bore on the heart of our position in the Community in a way which was much more fundamental than other negotiations on Community policies. Fisheries, though it raises vital issues, does not have the same character.

There will continue to be arguments over important individual aspects of policy like fisheries. For example, early next year we seem likely to be involved in difficult discussions about CAP prices. Other Member States are also regularly involved in contentious matters of Community policy but this has not prevented them from undertaking high level, ceremonial visits to stress their underlying commitment to the Community.

There is, in fact, a good deal to be said for an uncontroversial, high level visit of this kind at a time when we are carrying out the fisheries negotiations. We have engaged to conclude them by the end of the year and are working to this end. The visit might help to demonstrate that we take this commitment seriously and expect the negotiations to succeed.

The timing of this visit was, of course, designed to fit the visit in before Mr Jenkins retires as President of the Commission at the end of the year.

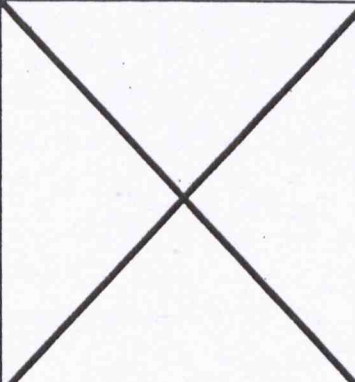
Yours *SLG*

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON

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DEPARTMENT/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i> PIECE/ITEM <i>2829</i> (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract details: <i>Letter Sir Philip Moore to Sir Robert Armstrong 7/7/80</i>	
CLOSED UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
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FILE

RH

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Foreign Policy

30 June, 1980

BF 7.7.80

Reyal Visit to Brussels

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 27 June on this subject. Before giving her agreement, the Prime Minister would like to be assured that the likely state of negotiations on the Common Fisheries Policy at the end of November has been taken into account. Clearly the negotiations could then be at a very difficult stage.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

G G H Walden, Esq
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

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GR



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister (1)
Agree A?

Am - 27/6

27 June 1980

Dear Michael,

Royal Visit to Brussels

The Royal Visits Committee approved in principle in 1979 a proposal that The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh should make an official visit to the EC Commission and NATO, together with a visit to the King of the Belgians. The visit to the EC Commission would be in response to an invitation from Mr Jenkins, whose term of office expires at the end of 1980.

The Queen had expressed a preference for the visit to take place in July, but unfortunately the settlement of our budget problem did not come early enough to allow the visit to be properly prepared, and we considered it inappropriate for Her Majesty to visit the Commission until the problem was out of the way.

A | Lord Carrington now recommends that the visit should take place towards the end of November, and that it should cover two days, with one or possibly two nights. Before we make formal approaches in Brussels, however, I should be grateful if you would let me know whether the Prime Minister agrees.

~~George~~ - Please consider this advice in relation to a settlement on Fisheries Policy. The (G G H Walden) Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

Proposed visit could come at a very late time. The deadline for a settlement is end 1980.