

RESTRICTED

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MR LAVELLE

cc: Mr Holroyd

BRUGES SPEECH

nwb 300/4

Mr Ken
M Lavelle
M Driff
IS/ix
20/9/88
(57)

1. Thank you for copying round the 14 September draft. I have the following comments:

- (a) the historical references in the previous draft were in my view a good deal more coherent and to the point; those in this new version are strangely haphazard, glad though I am to note the insertion of the Dutch! If we want to stress the impact of Europe on our history and culture it might be more effective to say (instead of p.7) that "Our Kings spoke French for much of the middle ages, Dutch at the time of the Glorious Revolution - the three hundredth (...) - and German for most of the 18th century";
- (b) I would omit the jibe at the foot of p.13 and the top of p.14. Instead one could say: "A commitment which is not limited to the peoples of Western Europe: we must never forget that (...)";
- (c) a very warm welcome for the appearance (p.20) of "We Europeans";
- (d) in the penultimate line of p.22, I would insert "safeguarding and raising" after the first three words;
- (e) I am puzzled by the train of thought in the US passage on pages 24-25: the argument is presumably that the US is an inappropriate model for Europe, but the way it's put here leaves it open to a number of ripostes;
- (f) the top two lines of p.41 contrast strangely with the top three lines of p.43.

CR Budd

C R BUDD

15 September 1988

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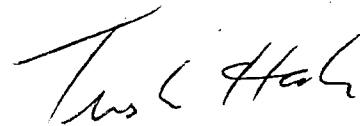
MR HOLROYD

cc Mr Budd
Mr de Quidt
Mr Alty

BRUGES SPEECH

I attach the latest draft circulated yesterday by No 10.

2. The draft has changed in a number of ways since the last edition. It has a wider sweep and rather less evidence of historic research. It is undoubtedly a more faithful reflection of the Prime Minister's views. But I can scarcely doubt that it will be less well received in the FCO, and the Commission, than its predecessor.
3. At a quick read I do not see any points on which we can usefully make specific comments except perhaps the reference at the end of page 55 to food aid which seems needlessly dismissive. I will check with the FCO if they will pick this one up.
4. I am glad to see that Mr de Quidt's idea of a reference to the German customs officer is finding a place on page 50.



R G LAVELLE

15 September 1988