

PRIME MINISTER

European Council, 29/30 March

As you know, this Council is slightly unusual in that the first morning will be largely given over to formal ceremonies in connection with the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome. This means that an earlier start than usual will be necessary. I attach an outline programme which would involve you leaving Downing Street by car at 0645 on Monday, 29 March. The alternative would be to go to Brussels the previous Sunday evening but I recommend that you do not do this (there will be nothing to do in Brussels until 1030 the next morning).

Agree to fly to Brussels early on Monday morning?

The Belgian Prime Minister has formally invited you to attend the ceremonial events. I attach a reply which you may care to sign.

A. J. C.

John - if we are going to have a stormy meeting I would rather go to Brussels the night before and stay with our 'ordinary' Ambassadors. The timetable says we rather fly to Brussels at 0645 on Monday.

not

17 March 1982

The P.M. agreed to leave at 0645 on the Monday.
AJ 19/3.