



File AH

Euro Pal

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

31 July 1981

Dear Bonni,

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT : ATTENDANCE BY PRESIDENT  
OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

You wrote to me on 3 July 1981 about the possible attendance at the European Parliament of the Prime Minister in her capacity as President of the European Council.

I subsequently told you that the Prime Minister's reaction to your letter had been such that the Foreign Secretary would have to stall if the question of the Prime Minister's attendance was raised with him when he was in Strasbourg in the week beginning 6 July. Lord Carrington told me after his return from Strasbourg that he had come under considerable pressure on this matter while there.

I have now been able to have a further word with the Prime Minister about all this and she has said that she is ready to speak to the European Parliament following the next meeting of the European Council but that her attendance there must be subject to her Parliamentary and other domestic duties at the time.

Yours sincerely,

*Anne Whitmore*

Brian Fall Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

AH