



PRIME MINISTER

THE GENSCHER/COLOMBO PROPOSALS AND THE LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE

As I am unable to attend the meeting of OD on Thursday I would like to raise a few points on the issues raised in Francis Pym's papers.

2 Clearly it is right to try to initiate a rational discussion of the future of the Compromise, and I agree that it is sensible to do so in the context of the current review of the Genscher/Colombo proposals.

3 I am also in general agreement with Francis Pym's proposals and recognise what he says about the possible increased use of majority voting. We need to recognise, however, that in areas where the Community has still to develop its policies, even when these policies will be based on ministerial unanimity, it is likely that the Commission, and, for that matter, the Council Secretariat, will seek to ensure that the enabling Community instruments will provide for majority voting. I think that this will be the case in the industrial policy sector, and in the further evolution of decision-taking procedures governing Community R&D, but it may equally be true for other sectors.



4 It follows therefore that we will need to weigh carefully the implications of majority voting in each new case as it arises and closely monitor the progress of the drafting of the appropriate Community instruments.

5 I am copying this to Cabinet colleagues.

PJ

P J

16 June 1982

Department of Industry



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Fig. 1000

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