

PPS
PSE

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH E.C. JOURNALISTS

I note that you have agreed to meet with E.C. journalists despite the fact that neither Bernard nor Charles are very keen on this idea.

The request is for June. I have had a careful look at the diary, and the only possible date seems to be Friday 20 June - the day before you go to Wales.

Do you really wish to see these journalists?

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Caroline Ryder

2 June 1986

EURO.POL: London Euro. Council: Pe 23

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PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH EC JOURNALISTS

The Foreign Secretary recommends that you should see a group of Brussels-based European journalists in June, as a curtain-raiser for our Presidency. Apparently other Heads of Government have seen them in similar circumstances.

Bernard and I are a bit dubious. Our Presidency is not going to be a wildly exciting one, and there will not be a great deal to say about it. The journalists in question regard themselves as self-appointed keepers of the European flame and are likely to ask a lot of niggling questions about your European-ness.

They are already seeing several of your Cabinet colleagues. That seems enough and I suggest that you decline to see them.

Agree?

Charles Powell

30 May 1986

DG2BCR