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PRIME MINISTER

Statement on the European Council

I do not think there is any way of avoiding an oral statement on the European Council. You will remember that Mr. Foot was adamant in his demands for an oral statement after the last Council.

The earliest day for a statement would be Monday. However, we have unfortunately arranged a military briefing on Gibraltar and Belize at 3.30 that afternoon, and it would be very difficult to rearrange this. I think we could defend your making a statement on Tuesday, given that Tuesdays and Thursdays are days on which the Prime Minister traditionally answers Questions in the House.

Agree that we should aim for a statement on Tuesday?

CWR

Yes
mt

29 November, 1982

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