

PRIME MINISTER

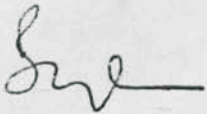
EUROPEAN COUNCIL

I am going ahead with the usual arrangements for handling the media after the European Council, namely:

- a Press Conference at a time to be fixed after the Council has broken up;
- the usual 4 radio and tv news interviews following the Press Conference.

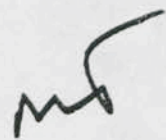
In addition you have agreed to give BBC Radio (Paul Reynolds) a short interview for a programme they are getting together to mark the 10th Anniversary of our accession. I attach a speaking note for this interview.

I shall of course prepare you a brief for Saturday morning for the Press Conference.



B. INGHAM

2 December 1982



DRAFT SPEAKING NOTE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO USE
IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BBC FOR A PROGRAMME ON
THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY

1. Britain has now been in the Community for ten years. We joined at the time of the first oil crisis and these have been a difficult ten years. World economic growth has slowed and many of the hopes of the sixties have been disappointed.

2. Even so, the Community has achieved much. It has grown in world status since Britain joined.

3. We now look ahead to a new decade. My hopes for the Community in the next ten years are that it will provide:-

- (i) A large and stable area of freedom, democracy and shared values; unity in a fractious, fragmented world.
- (ii) A strong and coherent European voice with an increasing weight in world counsels. This is what the world is looking for and Britain must be a part of it.
- (iii) A defence against beggar-my-neighbour policies that would close world markets to British exports.
- (iv) An open and growing common market - in services as well as goods.
- (v) a fair and lasting solution to our problem over contributions;

..../(vi)

(vi) Solutions on a European scale to the challenges that face us in the fields of energy and the new technologies.

(vii) Continuing help with the problems of the depressed regions and youth unemployment.

4. Britain's future lies in Europe and Britain is vital to the future of Europe. We must ensure that the Community develops in ways which benefit all its citizens no matter where they live. This is a challenge to which we should respond with vigour and enthusiasm.



ANNEX I

PRESS CONFERENCE SPEAKING NOTE

This has been a very serious-minded, concerned and responsible Council, concentrating on the economic situation and international trade - a discussion which took up much of yesterday's session.

All of us deeply concerned about jobs - the preoccupation of this Council.

All of us recognise the need to maintain economic discipline and to fight inflation if we are to achieve a stable base on which to build.

All of us recognise, as the Communiqué says, the need to strengthen the Common Market and eliminate practices which distort trade within it.

All of us, the Communiqué says, see the need for increasing international cooperation.

All of us want to see, as the conclusions state, a genuine and effective dialogue with the United States. A great deal of follow-up work is required in transatlantic relations, especially post-GATT.

The Community is, as the conclusions state, determined to pursue a constructive dialogue with the United States to ensure solid, confident relations between us.

I am encouraged by two things:

- first, there is now broad agreement in the Council on the need to pursue the kind of policy we have held to over three and a half years in the United Kingdom - a policy of conquering inflation to create a sound basis for jobs.

/- second, a clear



- Second, a clear recognition of the dangers of protectionism and the need for international cooperation to avoid it, in an era of deep recession and rising unemployment.

On that last point, I am very pleased that the Council has clearly signalled its wish for constructive talks and good confident relations with the United States.

On other topics, I made clear:-

1. Our position on fish; there are no more concessions to be made and 9 member states are firm on this;
2. Our position on the Budget - I want to see very substantial progress before the next Council in March - indeed the basis for a fair and lasting solution by that time.

I believe we have given new impetus to enlargement.

We also reviewed international affairs, in particular two areas:

1. East/West relations. Ready to work for safer and more productive relationship. We are ready to respond to any clear evidence that new Soviet leadership wants to work for this.
2. Middle East: Very concerned that opportunities for peace should be seized. In particular we look for a change in Israeli policy in the occupied territories and for withdrawal of all foreign forces as soon as possible from the Lebanon.

CONCLUSION

So a serious, hard-working Council deeply concerned about the



international economic situation and one which I believe has clearly identified our priorities:

- To maintain our attack on inflation
- To do all we can to resist the pressure for protectionism.