



JEG
(BEMAGY)

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. WILLIAMSON

CABINET OFFICE

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: MILAN

The Prime Minister has considered the briefs about the future of the Community for use at the Milan European Council and has raised a number of points.

She is not entirely happy with the proposed line to take on the European Assembly. In particular, she does not like the notion that the Assembly can somehow impose a censorship over the Commission's communications to the Council if the Commission are, as proposed, obliged to take account of the Parliament's views in drawing up their definitive proposals. She also has some misgivings about the early stage at which it is proposed to conduct the conciliation procedure. I should be grateful if the note on the European Assembly could be recast to take account of these points. It would be helpful if it could be put in the form of a speaking note.

The Prime Minister would like the speaking note on Eureka and technological co-operation cast in a rather more racy form, bringing out the main selling points. The intention is that, once the Prime Minister herself has used it, we could draw on it in briefing the press.

She would also like the draft opening statement on the future of the Community looked at again, not so much for substance but for form, so that it flows naturally as a statement she could deliver more or less unchanged.

It would be helpful to have the revised versions of these three documents by the time we depart tomorrow evening.

I should also record that the Prime Minister recognises that other Member States will probably want to call the formal agreement on political co-operation a Treaty. Although she will not want to use this term herself, she will not object to its use by others (and may be prepared to indicate privately to Chancellor Kohl that she can accept this). The Prime Minister is, however, firmly opposed to any suggestion that we would be ready to contemplate Treaty amendment. This means that she would not go along with the suggestion in paragraph 7 of the Foreign Secretary's minute of 25 June that we could agree without commitment to look into the possibility of amending some of the Treaty Articles bearing on completion of the Common Market.

I am copying this minute to Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Charles Powell

26 June 1985