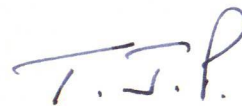


PRIME MINISTER

You agreed to a request from Mrs Lubbers to video tape a short message for Mr Lubbers' 50th birthday on 7 May.

The recording of the video message has been arranged for 11am on Monday morning when the COI will film you in the White Room. The attached message, which has been drafted by Charles, will be on an auto-cue for the recording. Should you wish to make any changes to the message arrangements have been made for amendments to be made on the auto-cue immediately before the recording.

I have also attached the original letter to you from Mrs Lubbers.



Terry J Perks
31 March 1989

SluBwQ

May I wish you a very happy birthday, Ruud. I hope you are spending it at home when your wife and children, and just for once taking a day off from the heavy burden of being Prime Minister - about which we both know something.

I remember our first meeting at the European Council in 1982. The first impression was of someone impatient to get on with the job in hand, and not waste time, even for lunch. I recognised a kindred soul, and I think that we have worked very well together in Europe since then. Indeed my only regret about the enlargement of the community is that we no longer sit right next to each other at the Council table!

We in Britain ~~very much~~ admire your leadership, in particular at the time when the Netherlands was reaching a decision about ~~INF~~ stationing, ^{Cruise missiles, Amel} but on many other issues too. ^{especially your realistic approach to agricultural matters and your grasp of} So often in Europe, ~~you have been the one to come forward with~~ ^{their then} ~~the proposal that achieves agreement.~~ ^{uninhibited} And we like your friendly and approachable style. Indeed, if you were not Dutch, we would claim you for our own!

It was a great pleasure to ^{edit} have you at Chequers just a few days ago, and to be able to talk so frankly and ~~uninhibitedly~~ about the great issues of the moment. ~~Thank you for coming then,~~ ^{Thank} Thank you for all that you do for Europe and the West as well as for your own people in the Netherlands - and once again, a very happy birthday.

E. J. LUBBERS-HOOGeweegen

LAMBERTWEG 4
3062 RA ROTTERDAM

ROTTERDAM, 22nd December 1988

Dear Prime Minister,

Ria Lubbers
Agree to do
this
CDP 3/1

My husband, Ruud Lubbers, hopes to become 50 years of age on May 7th, 1989. Though he himself does not like to celebrate his birthdays and certainly dislikes to be praised to the skies, the children and I would like to really surprise him for once. After much hard thinking we concluded it would be a good idea to ask some of Ruud's colleagues with whom he has been in touch for several years now, either in bilateral contacts or in the context of the European Council, to express congratulations on a videotape. We would also certainly welcome a critical note on his character. We would plan to present these congratulations on May 7th next year during a private birthday party.

It would be a great privilege and a pleasure for us if you would be willing to help to make this surprise a success by presenting a short congratulation on a videotape.

I thank you very much in advance indeed, also on behalf of the children.

Please accept, Prime Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ria Lubbers-Hoogeweegen

Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
10, Downing Street
London

JD3ACJ

MR. BEAUMONT

Mr. Lewis

Can you suggest a suitable occasion?

LAN 10/2

The Prime Minister has agreed to record a short video message for the birthday of the Dutch Prime Minister. We need to get this done by Easter if possible. Could you:

- negotiate with Amanda to find a date and time. Ideally, it would be tacked on to some other recording which the Prime Minister is making so that we do not have to get the equipment in twice. But I do not know what the possibilities are in the next few weeks.
- make the practical arrangements with the COI. I attach the likely text of the Prime Minister's remarks. It would probably be easiest to get it up on a screen so that she could read it off.

C.D.I.

CDP

8 March, 1989.

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

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We in Britain admire your leadership, in particular at the time when the Netherlands was reaching a decision about stationing cruise missiles. And on other issues too especially your realistic approach to agricultural matters and your grasp of their international implications. And we like your friendly and approachable style. Indeed, if you were ~~not~~ Dutch, we would claim you for our own!

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the great issues of the moment. Thank you for all that you do for Europe and the West as well as for your own people in the Netherlands - and once again, a very happy birthday.

His Excellency Dr. Ruud F.M. Lubbers



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His Excellency Dr. Ruud F.M. Lubbers