

PRIME MINISTER

MADRID EUROPEAN COUNCIL

You are to have a seminar meeting tomorrow with David Hannay and Roger Lavelle to discuss the agenda for the Madrid European Council.

The OD(E) paper in the folder sets out the main issues. The two principal and most difficult ones are the Social Charter and the Delors Report. You have already had quite a substantial discussion of the Social Charter this morning and have given instructions for work to be done on a statement of the social benefits which people of this country enjoy. You are to discuss the handling of the Delors Report with the Chancellor and the Foreign Secretary next week in the light of their minute. I would advise against getting into that issue tomorrow: I have arranged for you to have a discussion first with Alan Walters, Brian Griffiths and Andrew, Paul and me on Monday.

There are some other important issues to be covered at the Council and you might focus on them tomorrow. The first is the Single Market. You will want to ensure that this continues to have a high priority in the Community's work programme and should aim for a commitment by the European Council to complete the 1992 programme on time. We shall want to make sure that the withholding tax is well and truly dead and the corpse does not start to twitch. You will want to ask Mr Lavelle to produce a full statement of the restrictions which others still impose and which must be lifted by 1992 if there is to be parallel progress on State I of Delors.

There is also likely to be a discussion on frontiers. There is apparently growing recognition of our concerns about security, drugs and illegal immigrants, and a sensible outcome at Madrid which would set a target date for reducing - but not eliminating - barriers is feasible.

You will want to make sure that fraud is raised and properly discussed. We shall need to be on the alert for attempts by others to insert undesirable commitments in the Madrid conclusions, for instance on audio visual, on research and on institutional matters. It is quite likely that M. Delors may put a case for an environmental agency and an action plan to protect tropical forests. You will want to insist on working through existing organisations and institutions rather than creating new ones. The French and Spanish seem set on some discussion on debt. There is no harm in talking about it, but we shall want to resist any idea of a Community initiative or fund. Debt is not an issue on which the Community has competence and we should insist that these matters are discussed in the proper bodies, such as G7 and the IMF.

On the external front, there is likely to be some discussion of East/West and the Middle East.

C.D.P.

C. D. POWELL
15 June 1989

DS3AKG



10 DOWNING STREET

Ri Lester

You may like to
see this summary
of the main issues
likely to arise at
Patrick's before your
meeting with David
Hannay & Roger
Lorelle tomorrow

CD 1576.



FILE KK

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

6 June 1989

I am just writing to confirm Sir David's meeting with the Prime Minister at 1145 on Friday 16 June. This meeting will last approximately one hour.

I am copying this letter to Roger Lavelle in the Cabinet Office.

(MRS. AMANDA PONSONBY)

The Private Secretary to
Sir David Hannay, KCMG

DTS

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(89) 248 final

Brussels, 30 May 1989

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

COMMUNITY CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL RIGHTS

(presented by the Commission)

COM (89) 248 final

Brussels, 30 May 1989

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

COMMUNITY CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL RIGHTS

The Heads of State or of Government of the Member States of
the European Community meeting at _____ on

Whereas, under the terms of Article 117 of the EEC Treaty,
the Member States have agreed on the need to promote improved
living and working conditions for workers so as to make
possible their harmonization while the improvement is being
maintained;

Having regard to the importance attached by the European
Councils of Hanover and Rhodes to the implementation of a
social policy at Community level, particularly in view of
the impending completion of the internal market;

Having regard to the Resolution of the European Parliament of 15 March 1989 and the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee of 22 February 1989;

Whereas one of the priority objectives in the economic and social field is to combat unemployment and to this end the completion of the internal market presents major opportunities for growth and job creation;

Whereas the completion of the internal market should be conducive to the approximation of improving living and working conditions, as well as economic and social cohesion within the European Community while distortions of competition;

Whereas the completion of the internal market must also offer improvements in the social field for citizens of the European Community, especially in terms of freedom of movement, living and working conditions, social protection, education and training;

Whereas, in a spirit of solidarity, it is important to combat every form of social exclusion and discrimination;

Whereas workers from third countries who are legally resident in a Member State of the Community should benefit from treatment comparable to that of workers of the Member State concerned ;

Whereas it is appropriate to draw inspiration from the Conventions of the International Labour Organization and from the European Social Charter of the Council of Europe;

Whereas the Treaty, as amended by the Single European Act, contains provisions laying down the powers of the Community, relative inter alia to the freedom of movement of workers (Art. 48-51), the right of establishment (Art. 52-58), the approximation of laws (Art. 100 a), the social field (Art. 117-122) - in particular as regards improvement of the working environment (Art. 118 a), the development of the dialogue between management and labour at European level (Art. 118 b), the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work (Art. 119), a common vocational training policy (Art. 128) and economic and social cohesion (Art. 130 a to 130 e);

Whereas the present Charter aims on the one hand to build on the progress made in the social field, in particular through Community action;

Whereas it aims, on the other hand, to be solemnly declared that the implementation of the Single European Act must be accompanied, either at European Community level or at the level of the Member States or of their constituent parts, by a development of the social rights of citizens of the European Community, especially workers and self-employed persons;

Whereas responsibility for the initiatives to be taken with regard to the implementation of these social rights, which must be guided by the principle of "subsidiarity", lies, according to the circumstances, with the Member States or their constituent parts or with the European Community ; whereas this implementation requires the involvement of the two sides of industry ;

Whereas the solemn proclamation of fundamental social rights at European Community level must not, when implemented, provide grounds for any retrogression compared with the situation currently existing in each Member State,

HAVE ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION CONSTITUTING THE "COMMUNITY CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL RIGHTS" :

TITLE I - FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL RIGHTS

RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

1. Every citizen of the European Community shall have the right to freedom of movement throughout the territory of the Community subject to restrictions justified on grounds of public policy, public security or public health.

Harmonization of conditions of residence in all Member States particularly those concerning family reunification shall be continued.

2. The right to freedom of movement must enable any citizen to engage in any occupation or profession in the Community under the same terms as those applied to nationals of the host country, subject to the provisions of Community Law.
3. This right to freedom of movement shall imply entitlement to equal treatment in all fields, including social and tax advantages.

4. In order to ensure the implementation of freedom of movement, those obstacles constituted by the non-recognition of certain categories of qualifications or occupational skills must be eliminated.
5. Special attention must be devoted to improving the living and working conditions of European Community citizens residing in frontier regions and, in particular, of frontier workers.
6. The **wage conditions** as well as other social benefits relating to this wage applied in the host country, must in particular be guaranteed to workers of another European Community Member State performing work for the account of a sub-contracting undertaking in the host country concerned.
7. Furthermore, social protection must be extended to all citizens of the Community engaged in gainful employment in a country other than their country of origin on terms identical to those enjoyed by workers of the host country.
8. Working conditions and social protection applicable in the place of employment must in particular be ensured in the event of public works contracts in the Community.

Protection

EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION

9. All employment shall be fairly remunerated.

To this effect, either by law or by collective agreement at national, regional, interoccupational, sectoral or company level:

- decent wage shall be established;
- rules shall be laid down on the basis of which workers subject to terms of employment other than a contract of unfixed duration can be assured of an equitable reference wage ;
- wages may be withheld, seized or transferred, only in accordance with national law ; under no circumstances may employed persons be deprived of the necessary means of subsistence for themselves and their families .

10. Every individual is free to choose and engage in an occupation

11. Every individual shall have access to placement services free of charge.

IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS

12. The development of a single European labour market must lead to an improvement in the living and working conditions of workers in the European Community, this process resulting from an approximation of these conditions, while the improvement is being maintained.

This approximation relates first and foremost to the organization and flexibility of working time, particularly by establishing a maximum duration of working time per week.

It also relates to all forms of employment other than contracts of unfixed duration and in particular to contracts of fixed duration, seasonal work, part-time working, temporary work, weekend working, night work and shift-work.

The improvement shall also cover, where necessary, the development of certain aspects of employment regulations such as procedures for collective redundancies or those regarding bankruptcies.

13. Every worker residing in the European Community shall have a right to annual paid leave and to a weekly rest period.

RIGHT TO SOCIAL PROTECTION

14. According to the arrangements applicable to each country:

- every citizen of the European Community shall have a right to adequate social protection.
- all workers, whatever their status and whatever the size of the undertaking in which they are employed, shall enjoy social security cover proportional, where appropriate to length of service and pay and to their financial contribution to the appropriate social protection system.

15. Workers who are excluded from the labour market without being able to continue claiming unemployment benefit or who do not have adequate means of subsistence, shall be able to receive a minimum income and appropriate social assistance.

RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

16. Every employer and every worker in the European Community shall have the right to belong freely to any professional or trade-union organization of his choice.

17. This right shall entail recognition of the right to belong to a union, the freedom to negotiate and conclude collective agreements, the right to resort to collective action in the event of a conflict of interests - including the right to strike and the freedom to join any association of a democratic nature or to renounce this right without any personal or occupational damage being thereby suffered by the individual concerned. The establishment and utilisation of procedures of conciliation, mediation and arbitration for the settlement of industrial disputes should also be encouraged.

18. This right shall imply that relations based on agreements may be established between the two sides of industry at European level if they consider it desirable. The contractual agreements thus entered into may cover employment and working conditions, including measures of social protection for the workers concerned.

To this end, the dialogue between the two sides of industry at European level must be developed, in particular at interoccupational and sectoral level.

RIGHT TO VOCATIONAL TRAINING

19. Every European Community worker shall have the opportunity to continue his **vocational training** during his working life. The public authorities, enterprises or, where appropriate, the two sides of industry, each within their own sphere of competence, shall set up **continuing and permanent training systems** enabling every citizen to undergo retraining, more especially through leave for training purposes, improve his skills or acquire new skills, particularly in the light of technical developments.

20. Every European Community citizen shall have the right to enrol for occupational training courses, including those at university level, on the same terms as those enjoyed by nationals of the Member State in the territory of which the courses take place.

RIGHT OF MEN AND WOMEN TO EQUAL TREATMENT

21. Equal treatment for men and women shall be guaranteed. Equal opportunities for men and women shall be developed.

To this effect, action shall be intensified to ensure the implementation of the principle of equality between men and women in matters of remuneration, access to employment, social protection, education and vocational training and career development.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION, CONSULTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF WORKERS

22. Information, consultation and participation of workers must be developed along appropriate lines and in such a way as to take account of the laws, contractual agreements and practices in force in the Member States. This shall apply especially in companies or groups of companies having establishments or companies in several Member States.
23. In particular, these provisions shall be implemented in the following cases :
- when technological changes that have major implications for the workforce as far as working conditions and work organization are concerned, are introduced into firms;
 - in connection with restructuring operations in firms or mergers having an impact on the employment of workers;

- when transfrontier workers are affected by employment policies pursued by the firm where they are employed.

RIGHT TO HEALTH PROTECTION AND SAFETY AT THE WORKPLACE

24. Every worker must enjoy satisfactory health and safety conditions, more especially in his working environment and appropriate measures must be taken to this effect with a view to achieving further harmonization of conditions in this area while maintaining the improvements made.

Such protection may not be jeopardized by the provisions concerning the implementation of the single market, especially where public works are concerned.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

25. Without prejudice to such rules as may be more favourable to young people, in particular those ensuring their preparation for work through of vocational training, the minimum employment age shall be fixed at 16 years.

26. Young people of more than 16 years of age who are in gainful employment shall receive equitable remuneration. Furthermore, for a period of at least two years, they shall receive **complementary vocational training** during working hours in order to adapt to the requirements of their working life.

27. Appropriate measures shall be taken to adjust labour regulations applicable to young workers so that their specific development and vocational training needs are met.

THE ELDERLY

28. Every European Community citizen in retirement or early retirement shall be able to receive an income affording him or her a decent standard of living.

29. Any European Community citizen having reached retirement age but who is not entitled to a pension, for example owing to a very long period of exclusion from the labour market, and who does not have other adequate means of subsistence, shall be entitled to a minimum income.

30. Furthermore, the elderly must be given adequate social protection and specific additional measures shall be taken to ensure that they have social protection and medical assistance specifically suited to their needs and as wide an access as possible to that assistance.

THE DISABLED

31. Measures shall be taken to ensure the fullest possible integration of the disabled into working life, in particular where vocational training, professional reinsertion and readaptation and social integration are concerned, by means of improving accessibility, mobility, means of transport and housing.

TITLE II - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER

32. Member States commit themselves to take such steps as are appropriate and to mobilize all the resources that may be necessary in order to guarantee the fundamental social rights contained in this Charter and full implementation of the social measures indispensable to the efficient operation of the internal market. This shall be done either through legislative measures, or by encouraging both sides of industry to conclude collective agreements at national, regional, sectoral or company level.

33. The European Council hereby invites the Commission of the European Communities to pursue, within the framework of the Treaty, its present activities in the social domain and instructs it to present by 30 June 1990, an action programme with a set of related instruments.

34. The Commission is also instructed to present at regular intervals a report on the implementation of the principles of the Charter, in parallel with the implementation of the Treaty of Rome as amended by the Single Act.

35. The Commission's report shall be transmitted to the Council of Ministers, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

SOCIAL CHARTER: MAIN POINTS

CONTENT

LINE TO TAKE

Preamble: Declaration should take account of social dimension and the need: to combat unemployment and create unemployment and create jobs; improve living conditions and working conditions; promote equality within the Community; and of Community action, recognising that this should only be what is not best left to Member States. It states equal treatment should be available to third country nationals resident in the EC. It proposes a series of possible legal bases for future legislation, none of which require unanimity.

1. Wide ranging rights to freedom of movement (paras 1-8) including guarantees that workers of one EC country working on sub-contract in another receive the same pay and social benefits as the nationals of the country where they are working (para 6). It also extends freedom of movement to citizens (as opposed to workers); and wants moves to harmonise conditions of residence for extended families of workers.

-We accept the single market must have a social dimension: to combat unemployment, create jobs and wealth to pay for improved living standards.

-But preamble is about protecting jobs, not creating them. Regulations cannot create jobs, only economic growth can. This should follow from the Single Market. It is in the Employment Growth Resolution which has been agreed by all Member States.

-Third Country nationals are outside the scope of the Treaty.

-It is important proposals are agreed by consensus of all Member States, and we see Articles 100 and 235 as providing the basis of any future proposals in the social area.

-This will damage the prospects of those unskilled workers in less developed countries whose chance of a job is that they are more competitive. What will happen is that business will employ non-EC workers. It will also discourage workers from the more developed countries from moving to others.

-The extension of rights to citizens and workers' dependents is not consistent with discussion in the Council eg on the draft rights of residence directive.

2. "A decent wage" for all workers, including comparable wages for those not on a normal full-time contract, either by law or collective agreements at national, regional, sector, or company level (paras 9-11).

-Unrealistic. How can you fix centrally a wage which is decent for small and large firms, students doing casual work and breadwinners supporting families, across regions of low and high costs of living?

-This is best left to individual and collective bargaining.

-This will impede the flexibility of the labour market, and damage prospects of job creation.

3. Maximum weekly working hours, right to paid annual leave and a weekly rest period for all employees including part-time and temporary workers (paras 12-13).

-Unnecessary interference by the state. This could impede flexibility of the labour market, and damage job prospects.

-The nature of some jobs (eg. on oil rigs, in farming, in the tourist trade) means they are sometimes best organised through long hours over short periods followed by long rest periods. This is best left to individual and collective bargaining.

4. A right to adequate social security cover including social security cover related where appropriate to income and length of service for workers, and a minimum income for workers not employed (paras 14-15).

-Best left to Member States (arguably outside Community competence).

5. A right to take collective action, including strike action, and to belong to a trade union, or not, and the "freedom to negotiate and conclude collective agreements" (paras 16-18), [which might be interpreted as requiring employers to recognise trade unions].

-Industrial relations are delicate, and industrial peace depends on achieving a delicate balance between interests of employers and the workforce. This will be different in each Member State and in each business.

-In the UK in the 70's, we saw an abuse of monopoly power by undemocratic trade unions, which harmed both the workforce and employers. Now we have safeguards which are widely popular with our electorate; and have democratised our industrial relations

-This would interfere with the reforms we have introduced over the last four years, and is unacceptable.

6. A right to training for all employees throughout working life, especially through study leave (paras 19-20).

-Training is very important for the effective operation of the Single Market. We must equip people to cope with change.

-Every Member State has developed infra-structure for this which they are improving. This is not appropriate for blanket harmonisation across the Community.

-A right to training or study leave could lead to totally inappropriate training, which would be useless to the employee and a waste of money for the employer.

7. Rights of men and women to equal treatment in pay, access to employment, social security, education, training, and career development (para 21). Commits the Community to more action in this area.

-We already have equal pay and equal treatment. We understand not all member states have developed systems to make sure people have access to proper consideration of their claims and to redress. Let us concentrate on comparing ways we can implement these directives effectively, as appropriate to particular Member States' traditions.

-The Community should confine itself to equal pay, and the area covered by the equal treatment directives, already agreed or under discussion.

8. A right to information, consultation and participation for workers in particular over new technology, or changes in a firm's structure (paras 22-23).

We support the broad aims of all this. It is a principle of good management to involve the workforce. But management must have the right to manage, and adopt the approach suitable to local circumstances, in negotiation with employees. We do not accept the need for harmonisation or regulation.

9. A right to health protection and safety at the workplace (para 24).

-We have a major programme underway in the Council; this has been already agreed, and we welcome progress made so far.

10. A minimum age of 16 for young people to work, and a guarantee of two years training during working hours for all young people in employment over the age of 16 (paras 25-27).

-This is appropriate to Member States. It is desirable for young people to follow full-time education up to 16. In the UK, Saturday jobs are seen as part of growing up. Any constraint on this would be unacceptable.

-Training likewise is important; and we welcome the European Social Fund support to Member State measures in this field. Further regulation is inappropriate. Some young people are simply not motivated to continue learning at 16: we need to carry on finding ways to encourage them. Regulations cannot change attitudes.

11. Rights of the elderly to an income according a decent standard of living (paras 28-30).

This is not appropriate for Community level action; and should be left to Member States (arguably no Community competence).

12. Measures to help the disabled into employment (para 31). [This extends to improving transport and housing].

-Of course everybody agrees that we should help the disabled into employment. But how we do this and with what measures should be left to Member States. Some help is already available under the European Social Fund.

This list shows the voting arrangements which we would expect to be applied to the various articles of the proposed Social Charter, should the Commission decide to bring them forward as individual pieces of legislation. The Commission may try, however, faced with UK opposition, to push through as much as possible on the basis of qualified majority voting.

- 1 a right to freedom of movement for all citizens of the Community - Qualified majority; social security measures - unanimity;
- 2 a fair wage for all workers in the Community, and a right to placement services free of charge - unanimity;
- 3 limits on the number of working hours per week, night work and shift work, and a right to paid annual leave and a weekly rest period - unanimity; but the Commission may try for qualified majority;
- 4 a right to social protection - unanimity;
- 5 a right to freedom of association and negotiation - unanimity; but Commission may try qualified majority;
- 6 a right to vocational training - simple majority;
- 7 a right of men and women to equal treatment and equal opportunities - unanimity;
- 8 a right to information, consultation and participation of workers - unanimity; but Commission may try qualified majority;
- 9 a right to health protection and safety at the workplace - qualified majority;
- 10 a minimum employment age of sixteen - unanimity; but protection of minors could come under health and safety - qualified majority;
- 11 a right for the elderly to an income affording them a decent standard of living - unanimity; questionable Community competence;
- 12 rights for people with disabilities - unanimity; but principles of access to training - simple majority.

DRAFT COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

The Council held an in-depth discussion of the preliminary draft Community Charter of Fundamental Social Rights submitted by the Commission at the meeting.

The Council feels that the Commission's preliminary draft incorporates the essentials of the Economic and Social Committee's Opinion of 22 February 1989 as well as the European Parliament's resolution of 15 March 1989 and that this preliminary draft is an important contribution to the process of establishing the social area.

The Council declares that in the setting up of the single European market the social aspects should have the same importance as the economic aspects and that they should be developed in a balanced way.

The Council hopes that as the discussions progress the social partners will participate in the examination of fundamental social rights and that a greater degree of consensus will be achieved.

The Council states that the European social area must be based on a list of sufficiently precise and legally binding rights while respecting the principle of subsidiarity and promoting the social dialogue.

The Council feels that the Commission's preliminary draft contains not only a statement of rights, which shall be defined with the greatest precision, compliance with which must be ensured through the adoption of compulsory rules in accordance with the provisions of the Treaties, but also a set of objectives which must be achieved in establishing the social area and developed through an action programme and common policies without prejudice, for both parts, to the role recognized by the Single Act to relations based on agreement.

The Council considers that the basic social rights should be adopted as soon as possible in the form of a Solemn Declaration of Heads of State and Government as soon as possible.

The Council urges the Commission to act immediately to prepare rules on fundamental rights and to draw up the action programme with a view to achieving the social objectives in accordance with the Conclusions of the European Councils in Hannover and Rhodes. The Council agrees also to take up immediately the examination of the proposals already submitted by the Commission in order to take a decision on them.

The Council notes that without prejudice to modifications that may be introduced, there is a basic consensus on the fundamental rights set out in the preliminary draft Charter, which constitute the social identity of the Community.

These conclusions will be submitted to the President of the European Council.

Luxembourg, 12 June 1989

WORST SELLER FROM LABOUR

LABOUR'S policy for the 1990s was issued last Thursday.

The prospectus is as long as a Jackie Collins book. But it's badly presented and lousily written.

It's as though Labour hopes you won't read it. Otherwise it'd be rumbled.

Take the bit about nuclear defence. There'd be no first use of British nuclear weapons.

Suppose Gorbachev fails and is replaced by the old Stalin types. Russia would be in a dreadful mess.

The new rulers might well want to take Russian minds off their appalling living conditions. Risking an onslaught on Western Europe would do the trick.

Russia has an overwhelming superiority in nuclear and conventional weapons. The risk would be much less if Mr Kinnock were Prime Minister.

Warning

He wouldn't allow the only thing which would halt the Russians. Firing a warning shot from a nuclear weapon.

The Kinnock veto applies to American nuclear weapons on British soil. They can't be used without agreement from the British Prime Minister.

It's bosh for Labour to pretend it now believes in nuclear weapons.

Particularly as its prospectus says: "Labour will immediately seek to place all of Britain's nuclear capability into international nuclear disarmament negotiations."

Labour would cancel all ours. In return the Russians would reduce theirs by the same amount. It'd leave them still with a vast arsenal of nuclear weapons.

Mr Kinnock has announced that he's remaining a member of CND. That's the organisation which campaigns

one-sidedly to abolish our nuclear weapons though others keep theirs.

No wonder he doesn't want our nuclear weapons kept modern. But Socialist President Mitterand agrees with Mrs Thatcher they must be. Or they'd be useless.

Or take Labour's intention to crush free enterprise. The prospectus advertises numerous new government banks and regional authorities.

These will instruct firms to run their businesses uncompetitively. And force them to invest in loss-making enterprises.

Labour's prospectus complains there are not enough strikes. They'd allow them to start before a ballot.

They'd prevent employers going to the courts to stop illegal strikes. Or ones not authorised by union members.

Today strikes are not allowed by those not in dispute with their employers. Labour would legalise sympathetic strikes ordered by union officials though those affected have no quarrel with their management.


Under Labour strikes would abound again. Instead of our having fewer than for years.

● THERE may not be a dock strike. This week the court could rule there's no industrial dispute, but a political one.

If there's a strike it won't last long. Only 6,333 voted for it out of 13,600 dockers in all the docks. And of 40,000 dock port workers.

Woodrow Wyatt

THE VOICE OF REASON



IT'S A STRUGGLE TO STAY BRITISH

THE Government is dead right about the Common Market. It wants genuine free trade between all its countries.

It doesn't want the unelected European Commission making our laws for us. About such things as taxes and trade unions.

Nor about how we stop the entrance of illegal immigrants, drug peddlers and criminals. And the spread of rabies from the Continent.

Mr Heath and Mr Heseltine say we must do whatever Brussels orders. Or we won't be real Europeans. They want our Parliament to become meaningless.

They want one government for the Common Market. They don't mind Greeks and Portuguese destroying a thousand years of our history.

They accept that the majority should compel us to knuckle under to the Common Agricultural Policy. The subsidies we have to pay to inefficient



HEATH: 'Obey orders'

Tough talk by Argies

LAST week Argentina elected Sr Carlos Menem as Fascist president. Immediately he said blood must be shed to capture the Falklands.

Last week the Labour Party said its policy is to negotiate with Argentina about the Falklands. That must mean it's willing to hand them over to the new Fascist dictator.

Lesson in revolution for Russia

CHINA is in turmoil. The masses are getting poorer. Incomes are reduced. Yet inflation is 25 per cent.

The necessary changes and economic reforms make things worse. It takes time for them to get better.

Meanwhile there's mammoth corruption. And precious little

freedom of expression. It was a fearful humiliation to have Mr Gorbachev in Beijing with the government helpless to keep order. It was also an alarming lesson to Mr Gorbachev.

His reforms will also take years to bring Russians a better life. Meanwhile they're becoming

worse off. The Chinese government have now decided on military force against the millions of demonstrators. That won't stifle unrest.

Much trouble brews in Russia as well as China.

It's hardly the moment for Mr Kinnock to promise to make us nuclear defenceless.

CHANGE OF COLOUR

SUPPOSE I'd written that Labour mustn't be allowed a black candidate in the Vauxhall by-election. I'd have been reported to the Commission for Racial Equality.

Last week Mr Kinnock got away with blatant racialism. He removed the black candidate favoured by the Vauxhall Labour party and substituted a white one.

DOCS CUT DOWN ON THE GOLF

MOST GPs in the NHS have been having a cushy time.

They only had to make themselves available to patients for 20 hours a week. That's why so many doctors play golf on weekdays. Now they've graciously agreed to see patients, including visits, for 26 hours.

True, they have a little administration to do as well. But unless they're dedicated the maximum working week needn't be more than 38 hours.

Having got their personal contracts comfortably settled, doctors are at it again. The rich British Medical Association spends mightily on lying advertisements.

Free

The BMA claim that doctors running their own budgets would be a danger to patients. They say hospitals becoming more efficient by managing their own affairs would injure health care.

Yet 25 per cent of GPs are interested in the advantages of having their own budget. And some of our best hospitals would like to be free of NHS bureaucracy.

It's the same old story. Doctors fought Nye Bevan, Minister of Health, in 1948 on every reform.

As in 1948, doctors in a few years will be saying how good the present reforms are.

At the moment they're not curing pains in the neck. They are one.

COMMONS COVER-UP

A COMMITTEE has laid down strict guidelines for televising the Commons.

There must be only passport-style pictures of speaking members.

There must be no shots of rowdy behaviour in the chamber or the public galleries. Every-

thing must be totally unlike the Commons as it really is. Nothing must "reflect adversely" on it or its members.

Viewers must be made to believe the Commons is as quiet and dignified as a church service. Not many are likely to stay switched on to this dishonest portrayal.

News of the World. 21st May