



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

This would be a very good
 appointment. Mr Jenkins is
 highly competent & young. He has
 done much good work on behalf of HM
 in his present post. Content?

10 April 1981

Dear Michael,

Richards
 -

Yes not

Commission Staffing: Post of Deputy
 Secretary General of the European Commission

I am writing to let you know that the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has approved the nomination of Mr Michael Jenkins, a member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, for the succession to the post in Brussels of Deputy Secretary General of the European Commission.

As you will know, the present Deputy Secretary General, Christopher Audland, who is also a member of the Diplomatic Service and has been working in the Commission for some years as an A1 a titre personnel, has been successful in obtaining the post of Director General of Energy (DG XVII), which is also an A1 post. This leaves vacant Audland's present post which it is in our interest to fill with a British candidate whom we need to nominate as soon as possible. The Secretary General, M. Emile Noel, has told us that he personally would welcome the appointment, on promotion to A1, of Michael Jenkins, who is at present Head of the Central Advisory Group, in other words the planning staff of the Commission. The two men have already worked very closely particularly on matters affecting the budget restructuring exercise. There are good prospects therefore of securing the succession but the appointment will inevitably depend on a cascade of other moves.

Sir Michael Palliser has discussed this vacancy with Sir Ian Bancroft and Sir Robert Armstrong. Sir Ian Bancroft has confirmed that there is no Home Civil Service candidate whom he would wish to see running alongside Jenkins. Unless the Prime Minister sees objection the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary proposes to confirm to the Commission in Brussels that Jenkins has our full support.

I enclose a copy of Jenkins' curriculum vitae.

Your ever
 yours

(F N Richards)
 Private Secretary

Francis Richards

M O'D B Alexander Esq
 10 Downing Street

MICHAEL ROMILLY HEALD JENKINS

Born 9.1.36

Educated St Christopher School, Letchworth
King's College, Cambridge

Grade 4 Seniority 1.1.74

Entered Through Open Competition (Method II) 1959

Career

1959 General training. Attached to UKDEL to UN General Assembly New York

1960 Foreign Office, Levant Department

1961 Paris, Third Secretary and Private Secretary to Ambassador

1965 Moscow, Second Secretary

1966 Promoted sur place to Grade 5A

1967 Foreign Office, Northern Department

1969 Seconded to industry, GEC

1970 Bonn, First Secretary (Economic)

1972 Seconded to CEC Brussels, Member of Mr G Thomson's Cabinet

1974 Promoted to Grade 4 sur place

1977 Head of EID(E)

1978-date Brussels, Director of Planning in the Office of the Secretary General, EEC Commission

Married 1968 Maxine Louise Hodson

Languages French Aii
Russian Ai
German Bi

Euro pd

13 April 1981

STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Prime Minister has seen Francis Richards' letter to me of 10 April and is content that Mr. Michael Jenkins should be nominated for the succession to Mr. Christopher Audland as Deputy Secretary General of the European Commission.

MODBA

G.G.H. Walden, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.