



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 233 4506

*Mr Coles This is OK by us.
Please could you confirm
we may use it if
asked. JH. 16/11*

Ian Kydd Esq
No 10

1) Coles to me pl.

2) Mr Kydd

I agree. JH 16/11

Your reference

Our reference

Date 16 November 1982

Dear Ian,

PRIME MINISTER'S LUNCH FOR QUEEN BEATRIX ON 17 NOVEMBER

1. As you asked, I have agreed with the Dutch Embassy here a line to take in response to any questions about the informal discussions between the Prime Minister and Queen Beatrix after lunch:

After lunch, Queen Beatrix and the Prime Minister continued their lunch-time discussions with an informal look at some topical issues affecting the 2 countries. [Prince Claus and] the 2 Foreign Ministers took part.

I have put Prince Claus in brackets in case he is unable to attend the lunch.

2. The discussions were inserted in the programme at Dutch request. Queen Beatrix likes to make a point of listening to the various world leaders she meets. It was only about a month ago that we learnt there might be presentational problems by which time the cat was out of the bag. I gather that some sections of the Dutch press are blowing it up into a 'sensitive issue'. I do not think we need be unduly concerned but obviously we should cooperate as much as possible in helping the Dutch cover their tracks so that the issue does not mar the State Visit.

Yours ever,

N. H. S. Armour

N H S Armour
Western European Department

cc Mr Johnston, News Dept

AFTER LUNCH SPEECH

NO PEOPLE IN EUROPE WITH WHOM WE FEEL MORE AT EASE.

- IN BOTH COUNTRIES THE MONARCHY LOVED AND REVERED
- WE EVEN SHARED THE SAME MONARCH FOR 14 YEARS
- BOTH HAVE IMPERIAL HISTORY.
- HAS GIVEN US A SPECIAL VISION OF THE WORLD, BOTH HAVE A VIEW OF EUROPE'S WORLD ROLE.
- BOTH HAVE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE THIRD WORLD
- BOTH MARITIME NATIONS
- IMMENSE TRADE
- 1 MILLION DUTCH TOURISTS LAST YEAR

WE HAVE AN INSTINCTIVE UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER

- A PASSION FOR LIBERTY
- A RESPECT FOR DOWN-TO-EARTH COMMON SENSE
- EVEN (AND IT IS A RARE THING) A SHARED SENSE OF HUMOUR. WHEN 2 COUNTRIES UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S JOKES THEY HAVE COME A LONG WAY.

THE FUTURE OF ANGLO/DUTCH FRIENDSHIP IS BRIGHT,
THE FOUNDATIONS ARE SOUND. THE SENSE OF COMMON
PURPOSE IS STRONG. THIS STATE VISIT IS A
SPECIAL AND A VERY HAPPY ONE.

I ASK ALL OUR GUESTS TO JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO
"HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS
AND HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS, PRINCE CLAUS OF
THE NETHERLANDS".