

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T.30/84



FILE

cc: FO

RM

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

SUBJECT
cc Pastor
ops

20 July, 1984

My dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 6 July about the candidacy of Frans Andriessen for the post of President of the European Commission.

I recognise Mr. Andriessen's great qualities, and gave very careful consideration to his candidacy. But Garrett FitzGerald's soundings of our colleagues came up, as you know, with a consensus for M. Delors.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Garrett FitzGerald

His Excellency Dr. Ruud F.M. Lubbers.

RM

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ARC



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 July, 1984

Dear Charles,

Presidency of EC Commission: Letter from Mr Lubbers

In your letter of 10 July to Roger Bone you asked for a draft reply to the letter of 6 July from the Prime Minister of The Netherlands in support of Frans Andriessen's candidacy for the Presidency of the European Commission. I enclose a polite but non-committal draft reply to Mr Lubbers.

I am sending copies of this letter to David Williamson in the Cabinet Office and to David Peretz in the Treasury.

Yours ever,

Len Appleyard

(L V Appleyard)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

DSR 11 (Revised)

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

The Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Mr R F M Lubbers
Prime Minister of The Netherlands

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Thank you for your letter of 6 July 1984 about the candidacy of Frans Andriessen for the post of President of the European Commission.

There are, of course, a number of candidates in the field, but I can assure you that I shall bear ^{recognise Mr. Andriessen's qualities and} Mr ^{his} Andriessen's candidature carefully in mind.

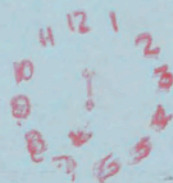
Garrett FitzGerald will have been in touch with you about the matter, as he has been with me, and I ^{we shall} look ^{have to consider} forward to hearing the results of his soundings.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

Europ. Pol.: Res. of Europ. Com.:

Prz

11 15 JUL 1984





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file

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 July 1984

Presidency of the EC Commission

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. Lubbers, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, promoting the candidacy of Mr. Andriessen for the Presidency of the European Commission.

BF | As you know the Prime Minister is discussing this subject with Dr. Fitzgerald tomorrow morning. I should be grateful if you could let me know by telephone whether Mr. Lubbers' message requires any change or addition to the briefing you have provided for that telephone call. I shall also be grateful if in due course you could let me have a draft reply.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Peretz (HM Treasury) and David Williamson (Cabinet Office).

Charles Powell

Roger Bone Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SWH



ROYAL NETHERLANDS EMBASSY
LONDON

Prime Minister
Relevant to your talk
with Dr. Fitzgerald

Prime Minister

Wm. Tel

CDD 11/7.

10 July, 1984

Tomorrow. I have asked
for the Foreign Secretary's
advice.

CDD 10/7.

Dear Prime Minister,

At the request of my Prime
Minister I enclose herewith a copy of a letter he
is sending to you and of which the original should
reach me one of these days by diplomatic bag.
Mr. Lubbers wanted you to have the contents of his
letter at the earliest possible date.

Yours faithfully,

J.L.R. Huydecoper

The Right Honourable
Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
etc., etc., etc.,

COPY



9 July 1984

(Dear Colleague)

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter which I have sent to Mr FitzGerald today and which I believe speaks for itself.

I should greatly appreciate it if you would look favourably on Mr Andriessen's candidacy.

(Thank you for your kind letter and cooperation at Fontainebleau)

was signed

R. Lubbers



(Dear Garret)

Further to our discussions at Fontainebleau, I would like to draw your attention again to the candidacy of Frans Andriessen for the Presidency of the European Commission.

As you know, Frans Andriessen has considerable political and administrative experience, first as leader of his party, the then Catholic People's Party, and later as Minister of Finance.

The way in which he is currently managing the competition portfolio in the European Commission and his excellent contacts with the European Parliament on the Commission's behalf are universally appreciated.

Frans Andriessen's success in Europe is attributable to his strength of character, his belief in the European idea, his great familiarity with the various currents of thought in Europe, and - not least - his excellent knowledge of languages. He speaks French, English and German fluently.

Lastly, may I add that apart from the brief interregnum of Sicco Mansholt, no Netherlands commissioner has ever held the Presidency of the Commission. It would seem reasonable that the Netherlands should now be permitted to make this contribution.

I sincerely hope that Andriessen's candidacy will receive the consideration which I believe it deserves.

was signed

R. Lubbers