



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 July, 1984.

Dear Mr. Kinross.

I am most grateful for your letter of 25 July in which you suggest a number of names for the position of one of the British Commissioners to the European Community. I shall need to discuss the choice of our Commissioners further with Geoffrey Howe when he returns from Peking at the end of next week and I shall be in touch with you again after that.

Thank you once more for your help.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

The Rt. Hon. Neil Kinross, M.P.

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MR BUTLER

PRIME MINISTER

EUROPEAN COMMISSIONERS

Mr Kinnock has submitted some names (attached). He has not approached any of them to find out whether they would be willing to go. Joel Barnett stands out well above the others. The inclusion of Mr Landau suggests that Mr Kinnock is prepared to see someone nominated who is not a "serving politician". This opens the option of appointing two non-politicians if you choose to.

You said yesterday that you would welcome some more suggestions. Geoffrey Howe will no doubt let you have some when he gets back. Robin and I have been giving some thought and I attach a list of some names (some of whom Robin has already mentioned to you).

C D P

C D POWELL

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Lord Soames (again)

Lord Barber (probably would not be interested)

Lord Jellicoe (probably would not be interested)

Sir John Nott

Sir Philip de Zulueta

~~Sir~~ Walter Goldsmith

Sir David Wolfson

Christopher Hogg (Courtaulds)

Jeffrey Stirling

He would  
not do it  
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7/8PRIME MINISTEREUROPEAN COMMUNITY: BRITISH COMMISSIONERS

The Lord President has reflected further over the weekend but no fresh inspiration has descended. He says that the fact of the matter is that there is no financial wizard on the Labour benches of the Lords, something which Lord Cledwyn frequently bemoans. He is inclined to think that it is best now to leave matters until you return from holiday and then have a further discussion. He continues to think Lord Cockfield a good candidate.

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C.D.P.

6 August, 1984