

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

cc. Mr. Butler

EUROPEAN COMMISSION: BRITISH COMMISSIONERS

The Prime Minister had a brief discussion on this subject with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary this morning.

The Prime Minister said that she had concluded that Lord Cockfield was the best available candidate from the Government's side. She would shortly approach him to offer him the post.

The Prime Minister and Sir Geoffrey Howe agreed that Stanley Clinton-Davies should be approached as the candidate of the Labour Party. Sir Geoffrey Howe should do this once the Prime Minister has spoken to Lord Cockfield. No.10 to inform Mr. Kinnock's office of the approach to Stanley Clinton-Davies.

Sir Geoffrey Howe made the point that Ivor Richard should be informed of the appointment of Stanley Clinton-Davies (or, if he declines, another Labour candidate) before any announcement was made. He would arrange this.

C.D.F.

3 September 1984

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