



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 September, 1984

PLS 54
cc: FCO
DTI
DI Emp.

Dear James,

Thank you for your letter of 30 August about the new European Commission. I was grateful to have the CBI's views, and agree in general with the points you have made. As you will now have heard, I have decided to nominate Lord Cockfield and Mr. Stanley Clinton Davis as the two British members of the new Commission. I am sure that you will agree that this will ensure that Britain's voice is strongly heard, and will welcome in particular the experience which they have both had as Ministers of the problems and needs of British industry.

I am glad to hear that with Ray Pennock's help you will be devoting particular attention to UNICE. A strong and effective UNICE voice on these issues is very much needed.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely
Margaret

Sir James Cleminson, M.C., D.L.

54

Confederation of British Industry
Centre Point
103 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1DU
Telephone 01-379 7400
Telex 21332

From
Sir James Cleminson MC DL
President

e.c. DS/FCO
ODA
DTI
LHM



NBPM

CDP
14/9

13th September 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

R14
PPS

Thank you very much for your letter of 11 September about the new European Commission, and for the note which you have taken of my previous letter. I hope that your appointments will achieve all that we both hope for.

Yours

James.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW 1

Optimism
100%
Prag

Euro For EC Commission



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 September, 1984

Dear Charles,

European Commission

In your letter of 31 August you asked for a draft reply to Sir James Cleminson's letter of 30 August, about the composition of the new Commission.

I attach a draft, which - as you suggested in your letter - does little more than acknowledge the CBI's points. The Department of Employment have, however, suggested the inclusion of a reference to the need for a more robust stand by UNICE, to which they believe that the CBI could do more to contribute. Department's views on the Social Affairs portfolio were covered in the paper on the new Commission enclosed with my letter of 7 September.

I am copying this letter to Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry) and David Normington (Department of Employment).

Yours ever,

Peter Budd

R

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: Sir James Cleminson MC DL
President
CBI
Centre Point
103 New Oxford Street
LONDON WC1A 1DU

Your Reference

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

Copies to:

- S of S, FCO
- S of S, Employment
- S of S, Trade and Industry

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter of 30 August about the new European Commission. I was grateful to have the CBI's views, and agree in general with the points you have made.

I am glad to hear that with Ray Pennock's help you will be devoting particular attention to UNICE. A strong and effective UNICE voice on these issues is very much needed.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

CD 2

CAVEAT.....

As you will now have heard, I have decided to nominate Lord Gochfeld & Mr. Stanley Clinton Davis as the two British members of the new Commission.

I am sure that Enclosures—flag(s).....

you will appreciate that this will ensure that British voice is strongly heard, and will release in particular the experience which the Commission both had of working as Ministers of the industry.

Euro Pol: Appt of President of EC A 2.



RETURN
TO CP
AFTER
DESPATCH.

Mr Powell



hie ea

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 August 1984

CF

European Commission

You will see that Sir James Cleminson has written to the Prime Minister, copying his letter to your Secretary of State, conveying the CBI's views on the composition of the new Commission.

BF ||

I shall be grateful for a draft reply. Subject to your views and those of the other Departments concerned, I doubt that it need do more than acknowledge the CBI's points.

I am sending copies of this letter to Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry) and David Normington (Department of Employment).

Charles Powell

Colin Budd Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Confederation of British Industry
Centre Point
103 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1DU
Telephone 01-379 7400
Telex 21332

From
Sir James Cleminson MC DL
President

②
CBI

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

30 August 1984

Ack 31/8

Dear Prime Minister,

In spite of other preoccupations, I am sure you will presently be giving thought to the new European Commission which will take office under M. Delors in January. We in the CBI, like the Government, are of course concerned to see a high-calibre, forward-looking Commission, ready to take constructive initiatives aimed at the promotion of a vigorous and prosperous Community.

In our view such a Community can only be based on a healthy and thriving business sector: and therefore, notwithstanding the need for political balance, it is important to enjoy from the new Commission a greater understanding of and sympathy with business needs than we have had on the whole from the present one.

With honourable exceptions, including Christopher Tugendhat, the outgoing Commission has often seemed out of tune with industry: and nowhere has this been more apparent than in the field of employment and social affairs. As you are aware, the CBI has had to protest strongly and repeatedly against a variety of Commission proposals which are tantamount to social engineering. They would be damaging to the competitiveness of European industry and thus to the very employment prospects which they purport to enhance.

We very much welcome the stand the Government has taken on such issues, and the great efforts by the Secretary of State for Employment to prevent some of the more damaging measures being adopted.

I recognise of course the limits to the influence which any one Member Government can bring to bear on the composition of a new Commission and the disposition of responsibilities within it. But I would emphasise that the appointment of a Social Affairs Commissioner, in particular, with a soundly based understanding of industry's priorities would be seen by our membership as being very much a step in the right direction.

Whatever the make-up of the new Commission, you may be sure that we shall be redoubling our efforts, both direct and through UNICE under the leadership of Ray Pennock, to contribute positively to the creation of the kind of Community which we all want.

I am sending copies of this letter to Geoffrey Howe, Tom King and Norman Tebbit.

Yours sincerely

James.