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Prime Minister

Agree no figure before European

Council, and fuller consideration

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SWIP 3AG 01-233 3000

PRIME MINISTER

PESC PROJECTION OF NET PAYMENTS TO EEC INSTITUTIONS

We discussed yesterday my minute of 31 May, and I agreed to consider whether we could handle the figures on a different basis for the purposes of the internal PESC report.

- The report is now being finalised and will be circulated in about 10 days time. The only way I can see of meeting your concern would be to refer simply to the baseline figures included in the last Public Expenditure White Paper, and omit from the report any updated estimates or assumptions for our net payments. Instead of the usual separate chapter of the report on net payments to EEC Institutions, the introduction to the report would just include a single sentence saying that an updated assessment of the payments will be carried out after the June European Council. Such an assessment, when carried out, would not need to be widely circulated.
- We shall of course need to reconsider the position after the European Council, and to take account of the prospects for our net payments in the early July Cabinet discussion of the Public Expenditure Survey position.
- I am sending a copy of this minute to Geoffrey Howe.

15 June 1984

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 June, 1984

PESC Projection of Net Payments to EEC Institutions

The Prime Minister has seen the Chancellor's minute of 15. June. She is content that the PESC Report, which is to be circulated shortly, should simply refer to the baseline figures in the last PEWP and omit from the Report any updated estimates or assumptions for our net payments. She is content also that the position should be reconsidered after the June Economic Council.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Roger Bone (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

ANDREW TURNBULL

David Peretz, Esq., H.M. Treasury

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