



FCS/84/216

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

P.M.
✓ PC
NO.
Prime Minister

You should be aware
of Mr. Dankert's
intolerable behaviour.
No doubt intended to

Community Cash Position 1984: 1983 Refunds

1. Thank you for sending me a copy of your minute to the Prime Minister of 19 July. *Attached* put pressure on us over the 1984 Budget. CDP

2. I agree with the course of action you propose. It will, as you say, need careful presentation in Parliament but I see no alternative if we wish our refunds to be paid. 23/7

3. As you know, even with the payment of advances, we cannot be certain of actually getting our refunds before September. We have been pressing the Commission to call a meeting of the Advisory Committees of Representatives of Member States to consider the Commission's draft decisions implementing the projects in the United Kingdom on which the refunds will be spent. These committees were due to meet next week. In the last day or so however, the President of the European Parliament has said that the Parliament's approval of the transfer proposal, agreed by the Budgets Committee of the Parliament last week, will not take effect until he has written to the President of the Commission. He will not do so until the plenary of the new Parliament has met next week. In the absence of this letter from Dankert the Commission are proving reluctant to call a meeting of the Advisory Committees. If those committees do not meet next week then they are unlikely to do so before September. *mt*

4. We have been pressing the Commission hard on this issue and will continue to do. There is no reason whatsoever for the Commission to wait for Mr Dankert's letter. But we must recognise that, while payment of our refunds is not in doubt, there is still scope for the Parliament, the Commission and Member States to drag their feet.



5. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, the Lord President, the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip and the Secretary of the Cabinet.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Howe', written in a cursive style.

GEOFFREY HOWE

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

23 July, 1984

Euro Pt: Budget. Pt 26.

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