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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 August 1984

From The Minister of State

Robin Maxwell-Hyslop Esq MP
House of Commons
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

NBDM

PDP
35/2

Dear Robin,

will request if required

Thank you for your letter of 3 August about the use of the term European 'Parliament' or 'Assembly.'

Use of the term European 'Parliament' is in full accordance with Government practice as the Prime Minister has explained to Parliament on two occasions. The first was on 23 July 1979 in answer to a Parliamentary Question, and the second on 28 June 1982, also in answer to a PQ. I enclose copies of the relevant extracts from Hansard.

The Government follows the accepted Community practice of using the term European 'Parliament' except in legal texts, or where it is necessary to distinguish it from the Westminster Parliament, when we continue to use 'Assembly.'

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Yours sincerely,
Malcolm Rifkind

Malcolm Rifkind

Euro Pa: Parliament/Assombly Confusion

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