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EC BUDGETS AND RELEASE OF BRITISH REFUND

1. I HAD A FRANK EXCHANGE WITH PFLIMLIN, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, LAST NIGHT ON THE HARM DONE IN BRITAIN TO THE EP'S IMAGE BY SUCCESSIVE IMPEDIMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S DECISIONS ON THE BRITISH BUDGET PROBLEM. PFLIMLIN ASSURED ME AND JOHN LING, MEP, THAT ONCE THERE WAS AGREEMENT ON THE 1984 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET (WITHOUT WHICH THE COMMUNITY WOULD GO BANKRUPT), THERE WOULD BE NO QUESTION OF PARLIAMENT MAKING FURTHER DIFFICULTIES OVER THE RELEASE OF OUR 1983 REFUND. SIR MICHAEL BUTLER HAD BROUGHT HOME TO HIM OUR FEARS THAT THIS MIGHT NOT BE THE END OF THE STORY. BUT PFLIMLIN INSISTED THAT OUR CONCERN WAS MISPLACED. HE WENT ON TO ENDORSE THE POSITION TAKEN BY JEAN-PIERRE COT, CHAIRMAN OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.
2. I ENCOURAGED PFLIMLIN TO SAY SO PUBLICLY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HE INTENDS TO GIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER. PFLIMLIN DID NOT DENUR.

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