



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 October 1984

Dear Charles,

*CCPC*  
NBPM  
CDP  
9/10

Ad Hoc Committee on Institutions (Dooge Committee):  
Participation of Spain and Portugal

You will have seen from the telegram reporting the outcome of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Institutions on 28 September that there was some discussion about the participation of Spain and Portugal in the work of the Committee. I attach a copy of UKRep telno 3117 on this point.

Mr Rifkind argued in the Committee that Spain and Portugal should not be allowed to participate in the Committee prior to their membership of the Community. But others (mainly Italy but with support by Denmark and Greece) took the opposite view. We think that the compromise worked out ad referendum - observer status once the accession negotiations have been completed - is sensible. Mr Rifkind will therefore not object to this arrangement at the next meeting scheduled for 10/11 October.

If the accession negotiations have not been completed by the date of the Dublin European Council and Spain and Portugal are therefore still excluded from the work of the Committee, the question of their participation will be put to Heads of Government.

*Yours ever,*

*Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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R E S T R I C T E D

DESKEY 011130Z

FRAME INSTITUTIONS

FM UKREP BRUSSELS 011015Z OCT 84

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3117 OF 1 OCTOBER,

INFO IMMEDIATE LUXEMBOURG,

ROUTINE COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE ROME DUBLIN PARIS BONN  
ATHENS LISBON MADRID,

INFO SAVING BRUSSELS STRASBOURG.

MY TELNO.3115: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONS, 28 SEPTEMBER.  
PROCEDURE AND WORKING METHODS.

1. DISCUSSION OF MINOR PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WAS BRISK (AND CONDUCTED MAINLY OVER LUNCH). CONCLUSIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ATTENDANCE: PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE PLUS ADVISER PLUS NOTE-TAKER. IF, EXCEPTIONALLY, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND ALL OR PART OF A MEETING, THE ADVISER WOULD BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK IN HIS NAME, BUT THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE WOULD NOT BE COMMITTED BY WHAT HE SAID.

(B) FREQUENCY AND TIMING: EVERY TWO WEEKS, MEETING ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FROM 1800 TO 2200 PLUS THURSDAYS FROM 0900 TO 1700. DATES THEREFORE 10/11 OCTOBER, 24/25 OCTOBER, 7/8 NOVEMBER AND 21/22 NOVEMBER.

(C) PLACE OF MEETING: SMALL ROOM (SALLE ORANGE) IN PALAIS D'EGMONT, BRUSSELS, MADE AVAILABLE BY BELGIAN MFA.

(D) SECRETARIAT: COUNCIL SECRETARIAT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MATERIAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING INTERPRETATION (7/4) AND TRANSLATION. WORKING PAPERS INITIALLY IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH AND IF POSSIBLE ALSO GERMAN AND ITALIAN - LATER ON PERHAPS IN ALL LANGUAGES, SUBJECT TO REVIEW IN LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE. "POLITICAL" SECRETARIAT SERVICES - SEE PARA.4.

(E) EXPENSES: DOOGE SUGGESTED EACH MEMBER STATE PAY THE EXPENSES OF ITS REPRESENTATIVE(S), BUT OTHERS WANTED THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT TO PAY. MR RIFKIND SUGGESTED FOLLOWING EUROPEAN COUNCIL PRACTICE. DOOGE WILL CONSULT BILATERALLY.

(F) PRESS: AGREEMENT ON TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY. CHAIRMAN WILL SEEK AUTHORITY AT END OF EACH MEETING FOR LINE HE MAY TAKE IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES. ON THIS OCCASION HE WOULD ONLY NOTE BROAD CONSENSUS ON NATURE OF COMMITTEE'S TASK AND WORKING METHODS AND ANNOUNCE DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

2. SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. DOOGE SAID THAT GONZALES HAD ASKED FITZGERALD WHETHER SPAIN COULD BE REPRESENTED. FERRI (ITALY)

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ARGUED REPEATEDLY AND AT LENGTH FOR PARTICIPATION OR OBSERVER STATUS. HE WAS SUPPORTED BY MOLLER (DENMARK) AND VARFIS (GREECE). DOOGE THOUGHT IT SUFFICIENT THAT HE SHOULD BRIEF THEM REGULARLY AND HEAR WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY. FOLLOWING A LEAD FROM DONDELINGER (LUXEMBOURG), IT WAS EVENTUALLY AGREED AD REFERENDUM THAT SPAIN AND PORTUGAL SHOULD HAVE OBSERVER STATUS ONCE THE TERMS OF ACCESSION HAD BEEN AGREED. IN THE INTERIM DOOGE WOULD BRIEF THEM. IF ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT COMPLETED BY THE DUBLIN EUROPEAN COUNCIL THE QUESTION WOULD BE PUT THERE. IF ANY HEAD OF GOVERNMENT DISAGREED NOW WITH THIS PROCEDURE THE MATTER COULD BE RAISED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

3. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. PFLIMLIN (PRESIDENT OF E.P) HAD ASKED THAT THE E.P BE INVOLVED IN THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE. DOOGE HAD AGREED TO MEET HIM NEXT WEEK TO INFORM HIM ABOUT THE FIRST MEETING. (HERMAN (BELGIUM) MENTIONED A SIMILAR APPROACH FROM THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE, BUT THE POINT WAS NOT PURSUED.) MOLLER, MR RIFKIND, DONDELINGER, FAURE (FRANCE, WHO WAS PARTICULARLY KEEN TO PRESERVE CONFIDENTIALITY AND THE ABILITY OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT TO FEEL BOUND BY POSITIONS TAKEN), RUHFUS (FRG) AND ANDRIESEN (COMMISSION) ALL ARGUED AGAINST AN E.P PRESENCE, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN ALLOWED FOR BY FONTAINEBLEAU. FERRI, VARFIS AND HERMAN ARGUED FOR VARYING DEGREES OF CONTACT BEYOND BRIEFING. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION AT LUNCH, DOOGE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD SEE PFLIMLIN AS PLANNED AND INVITE THE E.P TO AN EARLY MEETING (I.E ON THE AFTERNOON OF 11 OCTOBER) SO THAT THEY COULD GIVE THEIR VIEWS, LEAVING IT TO THE E.P BUREAU TO DECIDE WHO WOULD PARTICIPATE FOR THE E.P. THEREAFTER DOOGE HIMSELF WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INFORMING THE E.P OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE, WITH DUE REGARD FOR CONFIDENTIALITY AND HEARING THEIR VIEWS.

4. SECRETARIAT AND RAPPOREUR. THIS DISCUSSION GENERATED MUCH UNNECESSARY HEAT (REFLECTING CONSIDERABLE PRIOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE FRENCH, BELGIANS AND IRISH). SOME ARGUED FOR A FULL-TIME TEAM OF THREE OR FOUR - TO BE HOUSED IN NEARBY OFFICES MADE AVAILABLE BY THE BELGIAN MFA. THE COMMISSION OFFERED TO SUPPLY SUCH A TEAM FREE OF CHARGE, BUT THAT WAS VETOED BY MOLLER. SOME WANTED TO APPOINT A RAPPOREUR FROM OUTSIDE THE COMMITTEE'S MEMBERSHIP. RUHFUS SUGGESTED THAT IT SHOULD BE UP TO THE CHAIR TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS. MOLLER AND MR RIFKIND SUPPORTED HIM. FAURE ARGUED THAT THOSE WHO PRODUCED PAPERS SHOULD FIND HELP WHERE THEY COULD. (HE IS ASSISTED BY A MEMBER OF DUMAS' CABINET.) DOOGE CONCLUDED THAT HE WOULD CONSULT

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*Council*

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COUNCIL SECRETARIAT, COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND MAKE  
A PROPOSAL TO THE NEXT MEETING.

FCO ADVANCE TO:-

FCO - P.S, PS/MR RIFKIND, RENWICK, FAIRWEATHER.

CAB - WILLIAMSON, STAPLETON, LAMBERT.

NO.10- POWELL.

FCO PASS SAVING STRASBOURG.

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ECL(D)

COPIES TO .  
ADVANCE ADDRESSEES .  
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EURO POZ: Budapest

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