



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

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6 February 1985

Dear David

Dates of EC Councils of Ministers

In Chris Brammer's letter of 17 December he said that we were still pressing the Italians to reschedule the Transport Council on 23 May - the only remaining Council to clash with a Thursday Cabinet meeting during their Presidency. The Acting Permanent Representative in Brussels took this up with his Italian opposite number who consulted Rome about alternatives. But we have now been told that the Italians have been unable to find an alternative date.

Luxembourg, who take over the Presidency in July, have scheduled two Thursday Councils which are likely to cause us inconvenience:

14 November	Transport Council (Mr Ridley)
5 December	Social Affairs (Mr King)

We have asked UKRep Brussels to seek a change in these dates and to remind the Dutch, who take over on 1 January 1986, of our interest in avoiding Thursdays.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries of the Secretaries of State for Employment and Transport, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours sincerely
Alan H*

(A T Holmes)
Assistant Private Secretary

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