

PRIME MINISTER

EUROPEAN COUNCIL

You have a 'seminar' on this tomorrow with the Foreign Secretary, Michael Butler and David Williamson.

We cannot forecast exactly what will come up at the European Council until we know the final outcome of the Foreign Affairs Council which is still going on. But it seems likely that it will not be necessary for Heads of Government to discuss enlargement or own resources/UK refund (though the Greeks are linking this latter point to IMPs).

The subjects on which you might focus tomorrow are:

- (i) the unemployment and deregulation initiative.
Draft conclusions worked out by departments are at Flag A. You need to consider whether they meet your requirements; and if so, how best to launch them. Should we approach selected member states (Germans, Dutch, Belgians) in advance? Or leave it to you to spring on the European Council? We ought at least to say that you will want to have a substantial discussion of this issue.
- (ii) Dooge Committee. Mr Rifkind's minute at Flag B summarises where we stand. There is not supposed to be a substantial discussion until the June Economic Council, with bilateral contacts between governments in the meantime. But if there are not too many other issues, the discussion may start this time. We want to avoid any commitment at this stage to an eventual inter-governmental conference.

The Foreign Secretary and Michael Butler may press you to a slightly more open position on majority voting. I hope you will resist this.

E.R.

(iii) IMPs. Papandrea will put on some theatre at the European Council, and may well block everything - including our refund - until June at least. You will want to consider the tactical handling, and how far we can mount a sustainable common position with some other member states.

(iv) Political Issues. You have already discussed the possibility of a statement on the Middle East with the FCS and something is being worked up.

C.D.P.

C D POWELL

21 March 1985

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E.R.

PRIME MINISTER

EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The attached folder contains some of the key papers for the European Council in case you want to look at them over the weekend. It includes the Ortoli report.

A If you have amendments to suggest to the draft Council conclusions on deregulation and jobs, it would be helpful to have them.

We are hoping to arrange a further briefing with Michael Butler early on Wednesday.

Please keep
these papers together
and return to me on
Tuesday night.
com

C.D.P.

mt

22 March 1985



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MR POWELL

EUROPEAN COUNCIL BRIEFING

I suggest that at the meeting this evening the points which may need to be covered are:

- (1) enlargement - a brief report on the current situation. The Foreign Affairs Council is resuming on 28 March. It is unlikely that any negotiating issues will come to the European Council but we cannot be sure of this conclusion;
- (2) integrated Mediterranean programmes. This will certainly come to the European Council. We need to consider both the substance and the final stages of trying to concert a position with the Germans;
- (3) the United Kingdom initiative on deregulation and jobs. I submitted yesterday a draft text which we should seek to get into the conclusions of the Council. If the Prime Minister agrees, we might also discuss the best way of moving this forward to a successful conclusion;
- (4) strengthening technology and competition in the Community. There is now a paper from the Commission to which Monsieur Delors attaches a lot of importance. Most of it is good, although we shall not advise the Prime Minister to make any commitment on the proposed increase in Community expenditure on research. We shall need to determine before the Council how the Prime Minister might respond to a specific suggestion of Monsieur Delors for greater Community action on research in advanced telecommunications;

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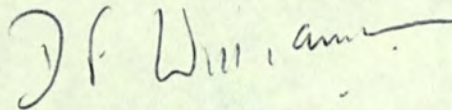
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(5) Dooge Committee. The Prime Minister will want to be warned of the main points of disagreement, even though our objective should no doubt be to concentrate any discussion at the European Council on the need for consultations between member states in the period between March and June;

(6) own resources/budget. Subject to a Greek waiting reserve this is now settled. Sir Michael Butler may wish, however, to explain it.

I am sending a copy to Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D F Williamson', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

D F WILLIAMSON

22 March 1985



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 March 1985

Agreed - Mr. Budd
informed.

CDP
27/3.

Dear Charles,

European Council: Briefing Meeting on 29 March

Thank you for your letter of 27 March about attendance at the briefing meeting.

There is one other point you may like to consider. The Foreign Secretary will of course not be attending the Foreign Affairs Council which begins on Thursday 28 March, being still with Her Majesty The Queen in Portugal. Mr Rifkind will be at the FAC in his place. If it finishes at a reasonable hour on 28 March then Mr Rifkind may well return to London that evening. If however it runs on into 29 March then you might perhaps want to invite Mr Rifkind to attend the briefing meeting, so as to report personally to the Prime Minister on the outcome of the FAC.

Yours ever,

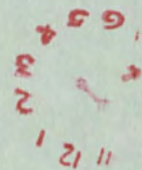
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

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10 Downing Street

Euro P87: Brussels Pt 20.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
AIR MAIL



27 MAR 1985

17 1985



10 DOWNING STREET

CP

Bill Ewing 233 6144.
European secretariat
wishes to know
what is the absolute
deadline for
revisions to
Euro. council briefs?

Tomorrow / phoned.
lunch.

JB

27/3

Note: Mr. Rifkind may
attend.



DA

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 March 1985

European Council: Briefing Meeting at UKREP Brussels on
29 March

It has been agreed that there will be a briefing meeting for the European Council in Sir Michael Butler's office in UKREP Brussels at 1130 on 29 March. The Prime Minister wishes this meeting to be small and business like. The following are invited to attend:

Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary
Sir Michael Butler
Mr. Williamson
Mr. Thomas
Mr. Unwin
Mr. Renwick
Mr. Ingham

I recognise that others may feel that they should be invited. But I have to insist that only those listed above should be present. I should be grateful if UKREP Brussels could be informed.

I am copying this letter to Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury) and David Williamson (Cabinet Office).

(C.D. Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

MR. POWELL

EUROPEAN COUNCIL BRIEFING MEETING

Whom would you like to invite to
this? It is on Thursday 28 March at
1630 hours for one hour.

CP
CP
Carlin
I've spoken to R2
about this.
AM.

7 March 1985