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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

Mr. Williamson

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

I have been looking at EQO(85)128. I imagine that you will not want the Prime Minister to see it at this stage.

I am alarmed by the number of Treaty Amendments which appear to be envisaged. If I calculate rightly, we contemplate the possibility of going along with amendment of at least Articles 57(2), 100, 145 and 155, as well as the addition of new Articles on at least freedom of movement, technology, environment. I don't think the Prime Minister realises, even following her talk with Sir Michael Butler and you, that we contemplate changing the Treaty to this degree. I should be careful about getting too far down this road, at least without a further discussion.

CDP

4 November, 1985.

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Qz.04703

MR POWELL

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE

Your minute of 4 November.

2. I agree with you that EQO(85) 128 should not be shown to the Prime Minister. We are following the normal procedure of discussing these issues next in the Steering Committee on European Questions. A paper will be circulated today. Thereafter a shorter revised paper will be submitted by the European Secretariat to the Sub-Committee on European Questions of the Defence and Oversea Policy Committee (OD(E)). We shall advise the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary immediately thereafter to report the conclusions of OD(E) to the Prime Minister, with copies to all his colleagues principally concerned.

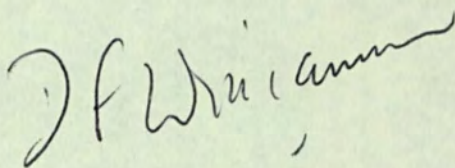
3. I am grateful for your warning about continuing maximum restraint on treaty amendments. We have consistently made clear in the discussions in the intergovernmental conference that we are not committed to any amendments. The most likely package to come to the European Council in December would be a number of important questions relevant to treaty amendments on:

- improved decision-taking on the internal market (an amendment of article 100 and possibly, but not certainly, an amendment of article 57(2));
- role of the European Parliament: the latest Presidency non-paper is very modest;
- (possibly) an amendment of article 145 on delegation of some tasks to the Commission;
- new articles on technology and environment.



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We are continuing the policy of compression and also of correction of bad proposals but we have never indicated that we would accept anything.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D F Williamson".

D F WILLIAMSON

8 November 1985

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Euro Pol: Budget.

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