



Ref. A083/1893

PRIME MINISTER

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Cabinet: Community Affairs

You, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer met Mr Dankert, the President of the European Parliament, last week and impressed upon him the importance of the Parliament not obstructing the inclusion of the United Kingdom's 1983 budget refunds in the Community budget for 1984. Accounts of the meetings have been circulated. Mr Dankert's public statements have not been helpful, but there is still a good period of time before the European Parliament actually has to adopt the budget in December.

2. The first meeting of the special Council to launch the work programme resulting from the Stuttgart declaration will be on 8 July. Contacts at official level with the Greek Presidency have been better than expected. The Minister for Trade will visit Athens on 4-6 July and the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Mr Rifkind) will visit Athens on 11-12 July for talks with the Greek Presidency.

3. The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry may report briefly on the Research Council on 28 June at which the United Kingdom was represented by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry (Mr Trippier). The Council reached agreement on five items, the most important being the terms of a Resolution adopting a framework programme for Community research and development. The United Kingdom underlined the need to pay careful regard to the concern for budgetary discipline expressed by the European Council on 17-19 June. The Council of Ministers (Research) will consider structures, procedures and final figures in October.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

29 June 1983