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HL



10 DOWNING STREET

OD(E): JTI  
LRS  
MAFF  
FCO

From the Private Secretary

14 July 1983

Further advance payment to the European Commission

Your letter of 13 July, about the Commission's request for a further advance payment by the UK of between £110 million and £120 million on 20 July, was discussed at the Chancellor of the Exchequer's meeting with the Prime Minister this morning.

The Prime Minister said that she was reluctant to make this payment, in present circumstances, unless it was absolutely essential. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Chancellor would consider deferring the payment to the point, within reasonable bounds, where it would be least to our disadvantage to make it. But on that understanding the payment could go ahead.

I am copying this letter to Brian Fall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), the Private Secretaries to other members of OD(E), the Legal Secretary at the Attorney General's Chambers and Sir Robert Armstrong.

A. J. COLES

John Kerr, Esq.,  
H.M. Treasury.

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