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✓
Pine Muntz

Do you agree

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG to this payment?
01-233 3000

3 August 1983

F E R Butler Esq
10 Downing Street

It
4/8

Dear Robin,

FURTHER ADVANCE PAYMENT TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

In my letter of 13 July to John Coles I warned that we were likely to receive further requests from the Commission for "recycling" monthly advance payments of levies and duties. We have now received the expected request in respect of traditional "own resources" for the month of July. The sum will be between £100/120 million, to be paid on 20 August.

David Williamson's minute of 22 July to John Coles suggested - paragraph 9(ii) - that refusing such requests would be a course to be considered if the Foreign Secretary's attempts to get the Council to rectify the outcome of the recent Budget Council were to be unsuccessful. The Chancellor agrees, as did the Prime Minister, and since we are still at the beginning of the campaign to get the £42 million restored to our 1982 refund, he proposes to agree to the payment on 20 August. The procedure will be similar to that for the 20 July payment.

Copies of this letter go to Brian Fall (FCO), the Private Secretaries to other members of OD(E), the Legal Secretary at the Attorney General's Chambers, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours ever,
J O Kerr

J O KERR
Principal Private Secretary

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

5 August 1983

Dear John

Further Advance Payment to the European Commission

Thank you for your letter of 3 August to Robin Butler. The Prime Minister agrees to the payment to be made on 20 August.

I am copying this to Brian Fall (FCO), the Private Secretaries to other members of OD(E), Henry Steel (Law Officers' Department) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Willie Rickett

John Kerr, Esq.,
HM Treasury.

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