



Prime Minister

① Agree revised programme?

② Agree proposed guest list for lunch

(you might drop both M. Le Pen and the leader of the Greens, in my view)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 November 1986

We had better ask them all

C.D.P. 20/11

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Visit to the European Parliament:
Strasbourg, 9 December

You indicated in your letters of 24 October and 4 November that the Prime Minister was willing to agree the proposed programme for 9 December and to meet members of the Kangaroo Group when in Strasbourg, accompanied by Mrs Chalker. I attach a copy of the revised outline programme which also takes account of your letter of 6 November indicating that it will no longer be necessary to arrange for a meeting between the Prime Minister and Members of the European Democratic Group. The outline programme also shows that the debate on the Prime Minister's Report may go on after midday when, ideally, the Prime Minister would leave to meet the Press and the Kangaroo Group and to prepare for the luncheon. I should be grateful to know whether the Prime Minister would be content to reply to the debate at 1145 as planned when we can be sure that the main speeches will have been delivered. If the Prime Minister agrees, Mrs Chalker could remain in the parliamentary hemicycle on her behalf for the end of the debate.

I attach a suggested guest list for the luncheon which the Prime Minister will give in Strasbourg on 9 December (at the expense of the Council Secretariat) which includes, as suggested in my earlier letter, the President and members of the enlarged Bureau of the Parliament and senior members of the Commission in Strasbourg on the day.

With the addition of a very few senior officials, a maximum of 37 would attend the lunch. Other Presidencies have expanded this to include, eg, Chairmen of EP Committees and other dignitaries, but the Foreign Secretary considers that a lunch for nearly 40 is a maximum if it is not to become quite impersonal. For anything over 40 we should have to move out of the European Parliament building and into a separate municipal building.

/The



The Prime Minister will wish to be aware that the Political Group leaders include the leader of the smallest Group, the European Right, Jean-Marie Le Pen, who is also leader of the National Front in the French National Assembly. It is standard Presidency practice to invite all the Group leaders and the Foreign Secretary considers that the best course is to follow this practice. M. Le Pen was invited to, but did not attend, the reception to mark the beginning of our Presidency, which the Foreign Secretary gave in Strasbourg on 8 July.

I should be grateful to know as soon as possible whether this guest list is approved so that invitations may be issued.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

VISIT BY THE PRIME MINISTER (ACCOMPANIED BY MRS CHALKER)
TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT : STRASBOURG, 9 DECEMBER

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

(local times)

- 0645 Depart Heathrow Southside in VC10 (flying time 1 hour 30 minutes).
- 0915 Arrive Strasbourg-Entzheim Airport.
- 0945 Arrive Palais de l'Europe.
- 1000 Prime Minister reports to the EP on the London European Council (followed by debate).
- 1145-1200 Prime Minister may reply briefly to debate and leave Hemicycle (Mrs Chalker will remain if debate continues).
- 1200 Prime Minister meets the Press.
- 1230 Opportunity for the Prime Minister to meet members of the Kangaroo Group.
- 1300 Luncheon given by the Prime Minister for the President and Bureau of the EP and Senior members of the Commission.
- 1445 Prime Minister leaves Palais de l'Europe.
- 1515 Prime Minister leaves Strasbourg-Entzheim (flying time 1 hour 35 minutes).
- 1550 Prime Minister arrives London Heathrow Southside.

JC3ABL

VISIT OF THE PRIME MINISTER ACCOMPANIED BY MRS CHALKER TO
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT : STRASBOURG, 9 DECEMBER

LUNCHEON TO BE GIVEN BY THE PRIME MINISTER

Guest-list A

Hostess: The Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
Mrs Lynda Chalker MP, Minister of State at the Foreign
and Commonwealth Office

President of the European Parliament

Monsieur Pierre Pflimlin

Enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament

Signora Maria Luisa Cassanmagnago Cerretti	}	
Herr Siegbert Alber	}	
Lady Elles	}	
Mr Hans R Nord	}	
Mr Patrick Joseph Lalor	}	
Herr Horst Seefeld	}	Vice-Presidents
Signor Mario Didò	}	of the
Mr Win (Winston James) Griffiths	}	European
Signor Guido Fanti	}	Parliament
Mr Spyridon Plaskovitis	}	
Madame Nicole Pery	}	
Mr Poul Moller	}	
Senhor Francisco António Lucas Pires	}	
Señor Manuel Medina Ortega	}	

Sir Henry Plumb, Leader, European Democratic Group

Herr Rudi Arndt, Leader, Socialist Group

Herr Egon Klepsch, Leader, Christian Democrats

(European People's Parl

Signor Giovanni Cervetti, Leader, Communist Group

Madame Simone Veil, Leader, Liberal Group

(Liberal and Democratic Reformists)

Monsieur Christian de la Malène, Leader, Gaullists

(European Renewal and Democratic Alliance)

Monsieur François Roelants du Vivier, Leader, Rainbow Group

(Ecologists)

Monsieur Jean-Marie Le Pen, Leader, European Right

Secretary General of the European Parliament

Signor Enrico Vinci

President and Vice-Presidents of the Commission

Monsieur Jacques Delors
Signor Lorenzo Natali
Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes
Mr Frans Andriessen
Lord Cockfield
Mr Henning Christophersen
Señor Manuel Marin

Director General in the Council Secretariat

Bill Nicoll Esq

UK Officials

Maximum of three.

[37 attending in all]





10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

21 November, 1986.

**PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, STRASBOURG:
9 DECEMBER**

Thank you for your letter of 20 November enclosing a revised programme for the Prime Minister's visit to Strasbourg on 9 December. This is acceptable with one change: the Prime Minister sees no pressing need for a press conference on this occasion.

The Prime Minister is also content with the proposed guest list for her lunch. One of the slots for UK officials will have to be kept for me.

(C.D. Powell)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

bc. P.C.

10
75

Sofu