

CONFIDENTIAL



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From the Private Secretary

12 January 1988

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY

SH The Prime Minister remains very resistant to moving Cabinet to enable the European Council in Brussels to start on the morning of Thursday 11 February. If we agree once, we shall come under pressure to do so again. Her strong preference would be to hold the Council on Friday 12/Saturday 13 February, travelling over to Brussels to see Mr. Lubbers on the Thursday night. I should be grateful if a renewed effort could be made to persuade the German Presidency to go for these dates.

I am copying this letter to Roger Lavelle in the Cabinet Office.

(Charles Powell)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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PRIME MINISTER

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY

As you know, there is to be an additional European Council on Thursday 11/Friday 12 February.

The German Presidency are pressing hard for this to start at 1000 am on the Thursday. They argue that every minute will be needed. Agreement to this would mean bringing Cabinet forward to Wednesday. Agree to this?

Depending on your answer to this, there is the further question whether you would be ready to go to Brussels on the Wednesday night for a meeting with Lubbers. This worked well last time. Agree to try it again?

C/D

I am very unhappy about this
I would prefer the Fri/Sat and
go over on Thursday night.

I don't think we are going
to reach agreement
not

(C. D. POWELL)

JANUARY
11 February 1988