



CONFIDENTIAL

up
DC

FCO/89/215

HOME SECRETARY

Frontier Control Issues

1. Thank you for your letter of 24 November.
2. As you suggest, the odds are that any discussion of frontiers issues as Strasbourg will be sensible and low key, including a useful initiative on drugs. This certainly was the message from the Foreign Affairs Council last Monday and Delors' talks here on Friday.
3. I agree that we must soon look at the status of airports within the Community after 1992. We can expect renewed pressure from the CAA as word of the Schengen arrangements gets round. I suggest we take this in OD(E) once officials have prepared the ground. I welcome also your intention to write round soon about immigration checks on Channel Tunnel trains.
4. I agree with your proposed handling of the "Euro-visas" issue.

/5.

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

5. We may face renewed interest in our commitment to freer movement when the Schengen Treaty is signed on 15 December. I suggest our officials should prepare a line which could form the basis of our public reactions. We would want to argue that the limited and slow progress of the Schengen countries shows the validity of our contention, now widely shared, that progress on frontier relaxation has to be linked with progress on security matters. We should argue that this is a major indication of our stance.

6. Copies of this minute go to the Prime Minister, Members of OD(E) and Sir Robin Butler.

DH.

(DOUGLAS HURD)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

7 December 1989

CONFIDENTIAL