

ADVANCE COPY



IMMEDIATE

HAGFO 001

00 FCO

GRS 340

CONFIDENTIAL

FM THE HAGUE 161230Z JAN 85

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 014 OF 16 JANUARY

PS (2)
PS/Lady Young
PS/M. Duffin
PS/PuS
Mr Derek Turner
Mr Jenkins
Mr Demich

Hd/WED
Hd/ECD(1)
Hd/ECD/E
Hd/Protocol

VISIT TO CHEQUERS OF THE NETHERLANDS PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (26 JANUARY)

1. WHEN I CALLED TODAY ON MERCKELBACH (POLITICAL ADVISER TO MR LUBBERS) HE GAVE ME THE FOLLOWING REACTIONS TO THE PROPOSALS FOR THE PROGRAMME AND AGENDA IN YOUR TELNO 001 OF 4 JANUARY.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

2. LUBBERS CONSIDERS THE EC TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT AGENDA ITEM FOR HIM. HE WILL THEREFORE BE BRINGING POSTHUNUS MEYJES WITH HIM FOR THE TALKS. HE WOULD LIKE TO RANGE OVER THE ISSUES WHICH THE COMMUNITY MUST DECIDE IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AND HOPES THAT THE DISCUSSIONS CAN BE AS CONCRETE AS POSSIBLE. HE HAS IN MIND IN PARTICULAR THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE ACCESSION, THE GREEK POSITION ON INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES AND AGRICULTURAL PRICE FIXING. UNDER THE HEADING 'FUTURE OF THE COMMUNITY', HE ASSUMES WE MEAN THE WORK OF THE DOOGIE COMMITTEE, THE POSSIBLE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE AND THE COMPLETION OF THE INTERNAL MARKET. LUBBERS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RAISE HIS IDEAS ON A TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY WHICH HE FLOATED AT THE DUBLIN EUROPEAN COUNCIL. (AT DINNER LAST NIGHT, IN THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT STRENGTH OF THE DOLLAR LUBBERS SAID IN JOKING FASHION THAT HE MIGHT USE THE OPPORTUNITY OF HIS TALKS AT CHEQUERS TO SUGGEST THAT UK MEMBERSHIP OF THE EMS MIGHT BE OF HELP TO THE POUND.)

3. ALTHOUGH NOT STRICTLY A COMMUNITY MATTER , LUBBERS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS UNDER THIS HEADING ECONOMIC POLICY: HOW WESTERN EUROPEAN ECONOMIES CAN BE STIMULATED, UNEMPLOYMENT AND TAX CUTS. EAST-WEST RELATIONS

4. I SAID THAT MRS THATCHER WOULD BE INTERESTED TO HEAR LUBBERS' COMMENTS ON THE BELGIAN POSITION ON INF. MERCKELBACH AGREED. LUBBERS IN TURN WOULD BE INTERESTED IN AN ACCOUNT OF THE GORBACHEV VISIT. GIVEN THE CLOSENESS OF OUR CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE AND IN POCO, MERCKELBACH AND I AGREED THAT OTHER EAST-WEST MATTERS COULD PROBABLY BE COVERED RELATIVELY QUICKLY.

BILATERAL MATTERS

5. WE AGREED THAT THERE WOULD PROBABLY BE ONLY A NEED TO TOUCH ON THE WILLIAM AND MARY TERCENTENARY. ON AIR SERVICES, THERE HAD BEEN NO REACTION YET FROM THE MINISTRY CONCERNED. ON DEFENCE, VAN HOUWELINGEN, STATE SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE, HAD AGREED THAT IT WOULD USEFUL TO HAVE SOME DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE IEPG MEETING IN THE HAGUE.

MARGETSON

16 JAN 1985

10 11 12 1
9 8 7 6 5 4
3 2 1

CEPC



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 January, 1985

*Dear Charles,*Visit of Netherlands Prime Minister and Foreign Minister:26 January

Thank you for your letter of 2 January about the programme and agenda for this visit.

The Dutch are well content with the arrangements and agenda we have proposed. I enclose a telegram (Hague 014) from our Ambassador at the Hague, which records their reaction.

We believe it would be useful for the Prime Minister to raise defence procurement. We are keen to persuade the Dutch to buy our Sea Wolf anti-air warfare missile system instead of the American Sea Sparrow system. The Dutch are due to make a decision on this around the end of January, and they are expecting us to raise it.

Lubbers would like to bring with him Dr Posthumus Meyjes, Economic Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to attend the lunch and subsequent talks (instead of a Private Secretary). On that basis participation would be limited to Prime Ministers, Foreign Ministers, Ambassadors, Posthumus Meyjes and yourself. Posthumus Meyjes will have met Rodric Braithwaite, his counterpart on our side, on 21 January, partly to prepare some of the ground for the Prime Minister's talks. Mr Braithwaite would also be available to attend the talks should the Prime Minister so wish.

*Yours ever,**Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



FILE

cc: DE

27

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

18 January, 1985

VISIT OF NETHERLANDS PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 16 January.

The Prime Minister agrees that Mr. Lubbers should be accompanied by his Foreign Minister, by Mr. Meyjes, the Netherlands Ambassador in London and a Private Secretary. The Prime Minister has invited Mr. Williamson to attend on our side.

I should be grateful for briefs covering the points we proposed to the Netherlands side together with those set out in telegram no.14 from the Hague by the evening of 24 January. You will wish to bear in mind that the Prime Minister has been heavily briefed on most of these matters recently. Briefs should, therefore, be as taut and to the point as possible.

(C.D. Powell)

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

CONFIDENTIAL