

File 4 P

PRIME MINISTER

BRITAIN'S PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

You asked me to seek the Foreign Secretary's advice on gifts during our Presidency of the European Council.

The Foreign Office considered a number of alternatives to the Henry Moore sketch but the Foreign Secretary does not think the idea of a Henry Moore sketch can be bettered either on originality or artistic merit.

So can I now ask Crawfie to go in search of the sketches?

CAROLINE RYDER

24 June 1986

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

CR/GR

23 June 1986

Palmer's papers pl.

CR

Mrs. Ryder

Let's go ahead with the sketches - although the price is hardly modest!

CRP 23/6

Dear Charles,

European Council: Gifts

Caroline Ryder has written to our Presidency Secretariat about gifts the Prime Minister would like to give her colleagues at the time of the European Council. We understand that she has it in mind to give them a Henry Moore sketch but would like our ideas as alternatives.

We have considered a number of alternatives: engraved glass, china (given in 1981), specially bound books, and other items of modern British design are all possibilities. But the Foreign Secretary does not think the idea of a Henry Moore sketch can be bettered either on originality or artistic merit.

The Prime Minister will wish to know that the Dutch have been giving thought to presenting members of the European Council with a compact disc player (supplied by Phillips). The Foreign Secretary does not recommend we should follow suit. In his view gifts during our Presidency should be personal and modest.

Yours ever,

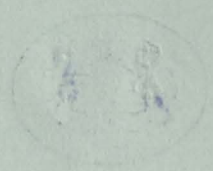
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9 June 1986

**PRIME MINISTER'S GIFTS DURING OUR
PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

I have had a word with the Prime Minister about the above and she said that before she decides on the Henry Moore sketches she would like to know what ideas the Foreign and Commonwealth Office have. Could you look into this please and let me know.

CAROLINE RYDER

Miss Matilda Edwards,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Room E102,
European Presidency Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth
Office,
Downing Street
SW1

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CRAWFIE

W A R N I N G !

GIFTS FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

As you probably know, Britain has the Presidency of the European Council for the last six months of this year. The Prime Minister has to give her 11 European colleagues a gift

She has it in mind to present them with Henry Moore sketches

I am checking this idea with the Foreign Office. If they come back saying this is a good idea would you be able to

C.R.

4 June 1986

PRIME MINISTER

GIFTS DURING OUR PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN
COUNCIL

Crawfie is going to see if she can find
some nice Henry Moore sketches for your
eleven European colleagues.

Before she starts looking could you confirm
that this is what you would like to give
them?

CR.

It is a little soon

to decide - and I ought

(Caroline Ryder)

to consult the F.C.S.

4 June 1986

MB