

ADVANCE COPIES

FRAME INSTITUTIONAL

16 XEROX COPIES  
9/20

FCO

RESIDENT CLERK

PLUS FCO

~~PS/MR. HIRKIND~~

ED/ECD (I) (3)

~~MR. J. B. B. B.~~

ED/NEWS

~~MR. J. B. B. B.~~

ED/

MR. ~~RENEWICK~~

ED/

MR. ~~DEREK THOMAS~~

ED/

MR. BRAITHWAITE

CABINET OFFICE

DOT

PLUS OGDs

MR D WILLIAMSON

MR G STAPLETON

MESS S J LAMBERT

~~MR. J. B. B. B.~~

MR D P HUNTER

~~MR. J. B. B. B.~~

MATT BURR

*Mr Powell 2010125*

H M TREASURY

M A F F

MR J G JETTIER

PERMANENT SECRETARY

~~MR. J. B. B. B.~~

MR. G. W. HOPKINSON

GPS 500

CONFIDENTIAL

FRAME INSTITUTIONS

FM UKREP BRUSSELS 261745Z NOV 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3944 OF 26 NOVEMBER 1984

INFO PRIORITY BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, THE HAGUE, ROME, DUBLIN,  
PARIS, BONN, LUXEMBOURG, ATHENS, INFO SAVING LISBON, MADRID  
STRASBOURG.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COUNCIL, 26 NOVEMBER 1984

DOOGE COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

1. GENERALLY CAUTIOUS PRELIMINARY REACTIONS, WITH NO SIGN OF  
ANY TENDENCY TO RUSH INTO DECISIONS AT DUBLIN EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

DETAIL

2. THIS CAME UP OVER LUNCH. TINDEMANS (BELGIUM), PROMPTED BY  
YOU, SAID THAT THE DOOGE COMMITTEE HAD DONE SOME USEFUL WORK.  
THIS SHOULD NOT BE RUSHED. THERE SHOULD BE AN INTERIM REPORT  
TO THE DUBLIN EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND A FINAL REPORT IN MARCH.  
ELLEMANN-JENSEN (DENMARK) SAID THAT IT WAS UNPRODUCTIVE TO HAVE  
A DIVIDED REPORT, WITH FOOTNOTES. THORN (COMMISSION) SAID THAT  
THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SHOULD GIVE ORIENTATIONS AND LOOK AT  
PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, SUCH AS THE NEED FOR AN INTER-GOVERN-  
MENTAL CONFERENCE. RUHFUS (FRG) SAID THAT THE INTERIM REPORT  
IDENTIFIED THE POINTS OF SUBSTANCE AND SUGGESTED AN INTER-  
GOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE. ANDREOTTI (ITALY) SAID THAT IT SHOULD  
ONLY BE REGARDED AS A REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF WORK.  
THERE HAD ONLY BEEN FIVE MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION SO FAR.

ONLY BE REGARDED AS A REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF WORK.  
THERE HAD ONLY BEEN FIVE MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION SO FAR.

3. YOU SOUGHT TO IMPRESS ON THE OTHERS THE NEED TO AVOID EFFORTS TOWARDS GREATER UNITY BECOMING A SOURCE OF DISUNITY BETWEEN THE MEMBER STATES. IT WAS NOT WISE OF THE COMMITTEE TO PROCEED BY WAY OF MAJORITY AND MINORITY RECOMMENDATIONS (OR BY DISCUSSION IN RESTRICTED GROUPS). IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO WORK CAREFULLY BY CONSENSUS. THE UK HAD MADE A POSITIVE INPUT AND WANTED TO ACHIEVE TANGIBLE RESULTS. DISCUSSION IN DUBLIN SHOULD FOCUS ON REALISABLE OBJECTIVES, I.E. GREATER ACTION IN POLITICAL COOPERATION AND IN FULFILLING EXISTING TREATIES. THE UK'S ATTITUDE TO FURTHER MOVES WOULD DEPEND ON OTHERS FULFILLING THE EXISTING TREATIES. THERE NEEDED TO BE MUCH GREATER CLARITY AS TO WHAT WAS PROPOSED, AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF THAT TO THE EXISTING TREATIES. WE INTENDED TO CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THIS WORK.

4. VAN DEN BROEK (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL COULD EITHER TAKE NOTE AND GIVE A GENERAL STEER OR DISCUSS AND FORM OPINIONS. UNANIMITY MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE. BARRY (PRESIDENCY) CONSIDERED THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SHOULD TELL THE COMMITTEE TO DO MORE ON THIS, LESS ON THAT AND COME BACK IN MARCH. RUHFUS AGREED. MARCH WAS THE DEADLINE, BUT THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE LOOKING FOR AN INTERIM REACTION. DUMAS (FRANCE) SAID THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SHOULD GIVE STEER. IT WAS WRONG TO RUSH DECISIONS TO DO WITH THE TREATIES, AND IT WAS FOR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND NOT FOR THE DOOGIE COMMITTEE TO TAKE THE DECISIONS. ELLEMANN-JENSEN AGREED THAT IT WAS FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL TO TAKE THE DECISIONS. BUT THE FREEDOM TO DECIDE WAS AFFECTED ONCE THERE HAD BEEN LEAKS ABOUT ALL THIS MEANWHILE. TINDEMANS SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED WHETHER TO CONTINUE ITS WORK AND WHETHER THERE WAS A NEED FOR A NEW AGREEMENT. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS WRONG TO CREATE DIVISIONS AND TOO EARLY TO GIVE DEFINITIVE VIEWS. ANDREOTTI (ITALY) ALSO SPOKE IN FAVOUR OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL GIVING GUIDANCE. MANY POINTS NEEDED TO BE EXAMINED IN GREATER DEPTH. CAUTION WAS NEEDED.

5. THORN SUGGESTED THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL SHOULD TAKE NOTE, INSTRUCT THE COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO CERTAIN SPECIFIC QUESTIONS AND ASK IT FOR A FURTHER REPORT BY MARCH. HE ASKED IF DOOGIE SHOULD BE INVITED TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. VAN DEN BROEK THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HEAR A REPORT FROM HIM. BARRY CONFIRMED THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD EXPECT GUIDANCE FROM THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. RUHFUS AGREED, MENTIONING SPECIFICALLY THE PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE.

FCO ADVANCE TO:-

FCO - PS, PS/MR RIFKIND, FAIRWEATHER  
CAB - WILLIAMSON, STAPLETON, LAMBERT  
NO 10 - POWELL

FCO PASS SAVING LISBON, MADRID, STRASBOURG

BUTLER