

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Strasbourg,

-1. -3- 1985

85 05956

Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
SW1 LONDON

Dear Prime Minister,

Following a debate held under urgent procedure pursuant to Rule 48 of its Rules of Procedure, the European Parliament has adopted

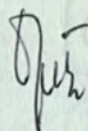
a resolution on the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the end of hostilities in Europe

and decided to forward the text to the governments of the Member States.

On behalf of the President of the European Parliament, I enclose an extract from the minutes of the relevant sitting, with Parliament's resolution.

The minutes will be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities pursuant to Rule 89(4) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure.

Yours sincerely,



H.-J. OPITZ

Encl.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1984 - 1985 SESSION

EXTRACT

OF THE MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF

THURSDAY, 14 FEBRUARY, 1985

IN THE CHAIR Siegbert ALBER, Vice-President

RESOLUTION

Commemoration of 40th anniversary of cessation of hostilities in Europe

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas 8 May 1985 marks the 40th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities in Europe which put an end to bloodshed on a scale unprecedented in the history of mankind in general and of Europe in particular,
 - B. whereas those huge sacrifices in human life and material loss instilled in the peoples of Europe an awareness of the tragedy of fratricidal conflicts on our continent and of their shared interest in the defence of freedom and democracy which are the only possible guarantees of respect for human rights and dignity,
 - C. whereas the Robert Schuman declaration, the 35th anniversary of which, by a fortunate coincidence, we commemorate on the following day, 9 May 1985, is the outcome of this awareness, and whereas the European Community which arose out of it is its political expression,
 - D. whereas the European Parliament, freely elected by universal suffrage, is the personification of the desire for brotherhood and solidarity of the European peoples belonging to the Community,
1. Declares that the mistakes, crimes and omissions which led the nations of Europe towards the abyss must never be repeated;
 2. Proclaims once again its attachment to democratic principles, the rules of international law and respect for the individual;
 3. Declares that the only way to avoid a repetition of the disasters of the past, ensure the full development of our peoples in freedom, security and prosperity and face up to the challenges of the present and the uncertainties of the future is through a tighter and more closely-knit union of the Member States;
 4. Expresses the hope that the European Community is only a first step along the path towards the unification of the European continent;
 5. Requests its President to submit to the enlarged Bureau proposals for a formal celebration on 8 May 1985 that will demonstrate the considerations and views expressed in this resolution, taking any steps that he deems appropriate to this end;
 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and to the governments of the member States of the Council of Europe.

H.-J. OPITZ
Secretary-General

Horst SEEFELD
Vice-president



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

8 March 1985

I enclose a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the Secretary-General of the European Parliament enclosing a resolution on the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of VE Day.

I am acknowledging the letter and do not think a substantive reply is required.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence).

(C.D. Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CSH



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

8 March 1985

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 1 March enclosing a resolution adopted by the European Parliament on the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the end of hostilities in Europe.

(C.D. Powell)

Mr. H.J. Opitz