



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 November 1980

Dear Michael,

Possible Visit by the Luxembourg Prime Minister

You asked for our advice on the suggestion communicated to you by the Luxembourg Ambassador that M. Werner might come to London to discuss the handling of the European Council.

We were told in Brussels that M. Werner was considering writing to his colleagues to make this suggestion. We are not yet clear whether this message will replace the letter.

Lord Carrington hopes that the Prime Minister will respond favourably to this idea. Because there are no major items of business to be decided, the next European Council offers an opportunity for a forward looking discussion. There are various ideas on the direction this should take. The Prime Minister has expressed her own views to M. Thorn and others. In discussion of the 'agenda', a lead from the Presidency is required. A talk with M. Werner would therefore be useful.

It is not customary for the President to offer such a visit before a European Council. Given the nature of the suggestion and the fact that a discussion would be helpful, the Prime Minister might wish to say that she would be glad to see M. Werner if a day can be found. A relatively short meeting plus lunch would be all that was required.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Paul

(P Lever)  
Private Secretary

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