

GOVERNMENT PAPER ON WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EEC

There was a story circulating at the end of last week, which may have originated in Strasbourg, that the Government had drafted a paper on the consequences of our withdrawal from the EEC. The story went on that we were seriously considering this option.

2. If asked about this we can say that:

- i The Prime Minister has repeatedly made it clear that this Government does not intend to withdraw from the Community.
- ii We are not interested in studying an option - ie withdrawal - that does not exist in terms of Government policy.
- iii Naturally we keep the costs and benefits of our membership of the EEC under continual review.
- iv There is no Government paper recommending withdrawal.

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