



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Shall I arrange meetings with Messrs Haughey & van Agt as proposed?

London SW1A 2AH

18 April 1980

Paul - 18/4

Dear Michael,

European Council: Bilateral Meetings Between the Prime Minister and other Heads of Government

The Prime Minister has already agreed to have a general talk with the Taoiseach in the margins of the European Council and it is for us to suggest a time and place. Since they have not yet met there might be advantage, if the Prime Minister's timetable allows, for the meeting to take place before the Council opens (at 3.00pm on 27 April).

No

It might also be useful for the Prime Minister to have a word with the Dutch Prime Minister before the Council opens, given that it has so far proved impossible to find a convenient date for the Prime Minister to visit The Hague.

Why?

The Prime Minister will be staying at the Holiday Inn. The most convenient course might be for Mr Haughey and Mr Van Agt to be invited to call on her there at, say, 2.00 pm and 2.30 pm respectively.

Perhaps you could let me know whether the Prime Minister's travel plans might be so adjusted as to allow for these appointments and, if so, whether we may go ahead and make arrangements accordingly.

No - The point about choosing the European Council in that I will have met him in various ways with several other friends.

Yours etc

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON