

Minister of State



PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON S.W.1

12th July 1971

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Dear Lo

I wrote to my Cabinet colleagues on 21 June and am now writing to you to ask if, now that we are launching a campaign in the country in favour of membership of the European Communities, you will seek and exploit every opportunity to speak in favour of the issue.

The general message should, I think, be a simple one and I enclose a short note which seems to convey the essentials of the main themes we want to get across.

In addition to general and departmental themes, it will be necessary also to defend the negotiated terms. We are circulating week by week in the speaking notes for Ministers series, material about the negotiating achievements and related developments and I hope that you will take every opportunity to use these also in your speeches.

I have no doubt that you will be able to draw on your own Department for your material on specialised subjects, but there is a section in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (The European Communities Information Unit) which is geared to providing special material on the EEC. Please do not hesitate to use them.

The presentation of our case is being co-ordinated both inter-departmentally and with the Conservative Group for Europe, the British Council of the European Movement and other committees and groups concerned, by Anthony Royle, on my behalf, and he in turn is assisted by an Official Co-ordinator, Hugh Jones. I hope that you will not mind if we make suggestions from time to time about speaking opportunities you might want to consider (or, alternatively, occasions to treat with caution). It would help in any case if your people could keep the Co-ordinator informed of your plans for speeches so that he can bring his resources to bear in support or otherwise at your wish.

This applies equally to broadcasting engagements. I hope that you will feel able to make yourself available whenever your other commitments permit (and subject of course to your usual reference and recommendation to No 10 in each case). This may include occasions when the notice is short. We shall do our best to mitigate any inconvenience by giving your office preliminary warning whenever we know that an approach is under consideration in the BBC.

The Rt Hon Joseph Godber MP

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