

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR MEETING ON THE EC BUDGET: THURSDAY 1 DECEMBER

I should be grateful for your decision on one point about attendance.

We have invited the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Minister for Agriculture, and, in Mr. Tebbit's absence, Mr. Channon to attend.

The Northern Ireland Secretary is very concerned about the implications for Northern Ireland of decisions at Athens on agricultural questions, particularly milk. I gather that the Welsh and Scottish Secretaries are also very interested in this matter. Mr. Prior recently expressed the wish that the three of them should be included in any pre-Athens Ministerial discussion.

We could, if you wish, ask all three to attend for discussion of the agricultural item. Do you wish to enlarge the meeting in this way?

A.J.C.

✓ seems a
wastage of their
time - but we
could deal with
that point first
not

No action.

A.J.C. 1/12

30 November 1983