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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 May, 1984

*John Ingham,*

/ I enclose the briefing on non-Community subjects for  
/ the Prime Minister's visit to Paris tomorrow. I also  
enclose telegrams 530 and 531 from Paris which set the  
scene.

Since the visit is short and the discussion will be  
mainly on Community topics the briefing has been kept to  
a minimum. Five subjects are covered:

No-Passport Excursions

Normandy Landings

European Security and the WEU

Anglo-Libyan Relations

The Channel Fixed Link (in case this is raised by the French)

No-Passport Excursions

On the same day as the Prime Minister's visit M. Gutmann,  
Secretary General of the Quai D'Orsay, will be bringing the  
French reply to our final proposal, to examine the possibility  
of a completely different scheme under which Post Office might  
issue Travel Cards. We hope this will dissuade the French  
from denouncing our bilateral agreement providing for  
No-Passport Excursions to France, and that, pending the  
operation of the new scheme, the present arrangements will  
remain in force. Detailed discussions are therefore best  
left to London. But the Prime Minister is briefed to make  
clear to President Mitterrand the possibility of anti-French  
reaction in the UK if the French do decide to denounce (your  
letter of 1 May).

Normandy Landings

There has been a hitch over the arrangements for The Queen's  
attendance which is explained in the brief (and in my letter  
of 2 May). Sir J Fretwell will, if necessary, bring the  
Prime Minister up to date on arrival.

Channel Fixed Link

A brief on this has been included because we heard at the  
last minute that President Mitterrand might wish to raise it.

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/We

*in folder  
attached to  
file.*

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We have no interest in raising it ourselves at this stage.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R B Bone', written in a cursive style.

(R B Bone)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

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## PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS, 4 MAY

## NO PASSPORT EXCURSIONS TO FRANCE

## POINTS TO MAKE

1. This is being discussed in London today by M. Gutmann.
2. All I would like to say is that if you decide to denounce the agreement providing for short No-Passport Excursions to France, this will provoke a certain amount of anti-French reaction in Britain. Many people benefit from this facility, particularly during the summer, and its withdrawal will be unpopular.

## ESSENTIAL FACTS

3. An Anglo/French Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of 1971, which continues arrangements in force since 1955, allows British subjects under the British Nationality Act 1948 (ie all Commonwealth Citizens) to visit France for up to 60 hours on production of a No-Passport Excursion Identity Card (NPEIC) obtained from the carrying company on the basis of a personal declaration of nationality and identity. Last summer, the French refused admission to numbers of travellers with NPEICs who were of new Commonwealth ethnic origin and asked for a review of the MOU.
5. Negotiations have been taking place with the French since last August and there have been a number of discussions at ministerial level. The French continued to insist that NPEICs should in future be issued only to British Citizens and by a British Government authority which would accept responsibility for the accuracy of the details, including the nationality of the holder.

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS 4 MAY

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMANDY LANDINGS

POINTS TO MAKE

1. The Queen is much looking forward to the commemoration of the Normandy landings on 6 June. It will be a great event.
2. Her programme has been amended in line with French wishes. We hope it will be agreed in the revised form discussed with the French Government yesterday.



## ESSENTIAL FACTS

The Embassy drew up a programme for The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh's visit to Normandy on 6 June, which included ceremonies in the morning in the British sector to be organised in cooperation with the local rather than the national French authorities, and which would not form part of the French official programme. The Queen gave her general approval to this plan. The French subsequently stated that they could not accept any arrangements whereby Foreign Heads of State attended ceremonies related to the Landings prior to the official programme organised by the French Government for the afternoon of 6 June. A revised programme has been drawn up which will include an informal reception at the Town Hall in Caen in the morning and an informal lunch party for other Heads of State on board 'Britannia', but the main 'local' ceremony at Arromanches has been moved to the evening to take account of French sensitivities. The Queen has agreed to this revision and Sir William Heseltine ~~is to visit~~ <sup>visited</sup> Paris on 3 May to seek the Elysée's agreement. Sir J Fretwell ~~will be able to~~ <sup>has reported in the</sup> ~~provide an account of how the meeting went.~~ <sup>attached telegram.</sup>

Subject to amendment

DRAFT

PROGRAMME FOR THE ATTENDANCE OF THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH  
AT CEREMONIES IN NORMANDY  
TO MARK THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMANDY LANDINGS  
ON WEDNESDAY 6TH JUNE 1984

Tuesday 5th June

- 3.00 p.m. (approx) Leave Buckingham Palace by car.
- 3.15 p.m. (approx) Leave Waterloo Station by train.
- 5.30 p.m. (approx) Arrive Havant. Leave by car.
- 5.45 p.m. Arrive HMS Dryad. Received by Captain J.C.K. Slater, RN (Director, School of Maritime Operations).  
View General Eisenhower's map room in the Wardroom, Southwick House.
- 6.00 p.m. Informal presentations of guests attending a D-Day Garden Party.
- 6.15 p.m. Leave by car.
- 6.30 p.m. Embark HMY Britannia at Whale Island.
- 7.00 p.m. HMY Britannia sails.

Wednesday 6th June

- 7.00 a.m. HMY Britannia ties up at Caen.
- 11.00 a.m. Disembark for private visit to Caen Mairie. Received by the Mayor. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11.15 a.m. Visit Reception Room, Cloisters, Salle des Marriages and the Abbey.  
Sign Golden Book.
- 12 noon Leave by car.
- 12.15 p.m. Embark in HMY Britannia.
- 12.45 p.m. Lunch guests arrive.
- 1.00 p.m. - 2.30 p.m. Lunch on board HMY Britannia (? visiting Heads of State).
- 2.50 p.m. Leave by car.

3.35 p.m.

Arrive Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery,  
Bayeux.

Received by Mr. Michael Heseltine (Secretary of  
State for Defence and President of the Commonwealth  
War Graves Commission).

National Anthem.

3.40 p.m.

Greet President Mitterand on arrival at the  
Cemetery.

French National Anthem.

Move past the Stone of Remembrance to the Cross  
of Sacrifice. Introductory sentences read by the  
Chaplain General of the Forces.

The Queen and the President lay wreaths on the  
base of the Cross.

Last Post.

Two minutes' silence.

Reveille.

Hymn ("O God Our Help . . .").

Prayers.

3.55 p.m.

Leave via the Lodge, signing Visitors' Book.

Mr. Heseltine presents Mr. S.T. Grady (Director  
of Commonwealth War Graves Commission, France) who  
presents the gardeners who tend the Bayeux Cemetery.

4.00 p.m.

President Mitterand leaves.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh leave by  
car.

4.50 p.m.

Arrive Utah Beach.

Greeted by President Mitterand at the Reception  
Marquee.

The Heads of State and their spouses walk past  
the Km 00 marker to the podium on the beach, facing  
the sea.

21 Gun Salute.

National Anthems. National flags are raised on  
flagpoles facing the podium.

President Mitterand speaks.

Heads of State only walk across the beach to the flagpoles, where photographs are taken.

Return to the Marquee.

THE QUEEN

5.50 p.m. Leave by car.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

5.55 p.m. Leave by helicopter with President Mitterand or Prime Minister Trudeau.

6.25 p.m. Arrive Canadian Cemetery, Beny sur Mer.

6.30 p.m. Wreath laying, with President Mitterand and Prime Minister Trudeau.

6.45 p.m. Leave by helicopter.

7.00 p.m. Arrive Arromanches.

THE QUEEN

7.05 p.m. Arrive Arromanches. Received by the Mayor.

THE QUEEN AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Take places on dais with General Sir John Mogg (President, Normandy Veterans).

National Anthem.

Review the Veterans (1200 drawn up in the square).

7.20 p.m. Return to dais.

Mayor welcomes The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

(S) Her Majesty replies and addresses the Veterans.

7.35 p.m. Withdraw to D-Day Museum, while Veterans re-group.

7.45 p.m. Return to dais. Veterans march past.

8.00 p.m. Leave by car.

8.30 p.m. Arrive Caen Airport and leave in an Andover of The Queen's Flight (1 hour 15 mins flying time).



? Dinner in the air.

8.45 p.m.

Arrive LAP and leave by car.

9.20 p.m.

Arrive Buckingham Palace.

28th April, 1984.

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PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS, 4 MAY  
EUROPEAN SECURITY AND THE WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

UK OBJECTIVE

1. To show the French that we are ready to pursue the discussions of a more active role for the Western European Union (WEU) in an open minded but cautious way, so as to influence the development of WEU in a direction which preserves Alliance interests.

POINTS TO MAKE

1. Agree we need to improve European defence cooperation. Our main concern is to strengthen not undermine the trans-atlantic link. No substitute for NATO or the US strategic guarantee.
2. Ideal solution would be for France to rejoin NATO's integrated military structure, and come into the Eurogroup to which we attach importance. Hope you will eventually see your way to this. In the meantime, WEU could offer play a role, and we are considering French ideas in an open-minded but cautious way.
3. See some merit in deeper consultation in the WEU Council on security issues of concern to European countries. The key is identifying which items are better



discussed there than elsewhere. Maintaining quality of WEU Assembly proceedings and improving relations with the Council can contribute to public support for defence policies.

4. UK welcomes arms collaboration. It must be efficient and competitive. Guard against European protectionism. But we do not want to revive the Standing Armaments Committee of WEU to give it more work in this area. The IEPG is the right forum for this.

5. Nor do we think that WEU's Armaments Control Agency should be given work on the verification of future arms control agreements. This is best done elsewhere.

6. We need to keep closely in touch with the Americans on all this, and not present them with rigid positions. They are not opposed to reactivation but want to be kept in the picture. We shall need also to keep other allies who are not members of WEU informed. WEU should not be an easy substitute for full NATO membership (e.g. for Spain).

#### BACKGROUND

7. The Modified Brussels Treaty of 1954 on which WEU is based contains a mutual defence commitment stronger than



that of the North Atlantic Treaty, and the commitment to keep British forces in the FRG. The Treaty is still of value, but the role of the Organisation itself has diminished in importance since the creation of NATO and the EEC. The seven members are the UK, France, FRG, Italy and the Benelux countries.

8. Recent renewed interest in WEU reflects concern to strengthen the European contribution to our common defence, among other reasons in order to be seen by our US ally as credible partners; and an increasing desire among our European allies to discuss defence and security issues among themselves. The German-led attempt to have such issues placed on the agenda of Political Cooperation achieved only slight progress owing to Irish, Greek and Danish opposition. The French have taken the lead in arguing that the WEU could play a greater part. Of her WEU partners, the Germans support French ideas for developing the WEU as a place for reflection by Ministers on questions affecting European security. Belgium and Italy also support, the former enthusiastically. The Netherlands is more sceptical.

9. The French have proposed developing the WEU Council as a forum for discussion; and giving the work of the parliamentary Assembly a higher profile. They also



suggest using WEU's Standing Armaments Committee for discussion of co-operation in weapons procurement. Underlying their proposals is probably a desire to tie the Germans more securely into a purely European defence organisation at a time when many in France are disturbed by what they see (we believe wrongly) as German neutralist tendencies. They also believe that the WEU Assembly could play a role in increasing public support for defence policies: a view with which it is possible to have some sympathy. The Germans on the other hand, in supporting the French ideas, want to exploit an opportunity to tie the French in to multilateral discussions of security questions, taking advantage of Mitterrand's readiness to move closer to his allies over practical defence co-operation. Ideal solution would be for France to rejoin the NATO integrated military structure or come into the Eurogroup in the near future. But the Germans see, we think rightly, France's willingness to co-operate in another forum as to be encouraged.

10. A paper on WEU reactivation is currently being prepared by the WEU Council Working Group intended for consideration by Foreign Ministers at a meeting originally due to take place in Paris on 24 May but for



which the French have now suggested 12 June. 12 June is inconvenient for the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.

Western European Department

3 May 1984

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PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS, 4 MAY  
ANGLO-LIBYAN RELATIONS

Objectives

1. United Kingdom: to seek French understanding for our action vis a vis the Libyan Government and their support in tightening controls on diplomatic missions which indulge in unacceptable activities.

Points to Make

1. We must consider urgently ways of preventing diplomatic premises being used as cover for terrorist operations, whether by diplomats or expatriate residents. We have instituted a review of Vienna Convention, but this will take time. Therefore taking immediate unilateral action to strengthen control over operations of foreign missions in this country. We shall be ready to make exemplary expulsions of staff of embassies and to use powers to control size of diplomatic missions when the government has good reason to believe they are responsible for unacceptable activities in this country.

2. We expect most of British Community to remain in Libya. We have no intention at present of imposing trade sanctions.

3. We recognise that France needs to discuss the Chad problem with the Libyans. But a visit by Cheysson in the aftermath of our difficulties with Libya would be the wrong signal. Hope France may find some other way of carrying on necessary discussions with Libya about Chad.

/Background



Background

1. France has an unpublished military cooperation agreement with Libya dating from 1976. Some 300 French personnel work with the Libyan armed forces. Between 250 and 400 Libyan military personnel are studying in France. The cooperation agreement survived high tension in 1983 over Chad. The French Embassy in Tripoli was burnt down in 1980, but relations were maintained.
2. M. Gutmann the Secretary General of the French Foreign Ministry visited Libya on 24 April for a 24 hour visit to make arrangements for an official visit by M. Cheysson to discuss military disengagement in Chad. Sir J Bullard has pointed out to the French Ambassador that a visit at this stage by M. Cheysson would be seen in the same light as that planned by Herr Genscher but which he had cancelled.
3. The French spokesman issued a low-key statement on 24 April deploring the violation of international conventions and principles which had led to the severance of diplomatic relations between UK and Libya.

Near East and North Africa Department  
2 May 1984



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PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS : 4 MAY

CHANNEL FIXED LINK

Points to Make (if raised)

1. When received the Banks' report will be carefully examined by the UK Government.
  
2. The UK Government remains ready to consider any proposals, provided these meet the conditions that any link should be privately financed.

Essential Facts

3. The Prime Minister agreed with the French Prime Minister, M. Mauroy in May 1982 following the report of the UK/French study group, that further studies should be undertaken on the financial and organisational arrangements for a channel fixed link (CFL) of whatever type (tunnel, bridge or combined solution). The studies are being carried out (on the basis of private and unguaranteed finance) by a group of English and French Banks - National Westminster, Midland, Credit Lyonnais, Banque Nationale de Paris and Banque Indo-Suez. The group's remit has been extended by a contract from the European Commission to cover the possible role of EC financial institutions in any financing plan. The group's report has been delayed but its presentation in final draft form to the

/UK

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UK and French Governments is imminent. This is expected to occur this week, but no public announcement to that effect will be made. The Banks will present the report publicly at a press conference on 22 May. Both governments recognise that they will then need some time to consider the report before any conclusions are reached. We understand that the Banks' report as presently drafted is unlikely to meet HMG's criteria of no public finance or government financial guarantees.

4. The Secretary of State for Transport will be consulting the Prime Minister and colleagues very shortly on the next stage of the discussions with the French.

5. M. Fiterman is known to want a decision to be taken on whether or not a fixed link project will go ahead before 30 June. Given the need to give the report careful study, which will take at least three months, this deadline is unlikely to be met. Also given the present uncertainties over whether the financial criteria can be met, it would be tactically wise not to make known our conclusions until after the French Presidency and the European elections. At the same time we must avoid giving the impression to the French of procrastinating unnecessarily.

6. M. Fiterman is the French Minister responsible for the CFL and is particularly keen on a rail link, as is French

/Prime

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Prime Minister. The French are unenthusiastic about UK insistence that any scheme should be financed privately without government guarantee and are probably prepared to contemplate some form of public financial support.

7. M. Fiterman met Mr Ridley in Paris on 21 March to discuss European Transport issues. As substantial discussion would not be possible until the banks report was received and studied, Mr Ridley reiterated the government's commitment to no public funds or government financial guarantees; and to emphasise the importance of also giving the financial markets adequate time to make their appraisal.

MARITIME, AVIATION AND  
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

3 May 1984

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