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01 October 2018

Mr Jeff James
Chief Executive
The National Archives
Kew
Richmond
TW9 4DU

Dear Mr James

Your Ref: FCO30/1048 Legal & Constitutional Implications of UK Entry into the EEC

I am writing to request the immediate digitisation and online publication, in full, of the above document.

You've most likely heard of it, as this particular document has been the subject of some rather lurid commentary over recent months, both in the national press and in the blogosphere. Press coverage alleges this document is a civil service study into the long-term effects of the UK's accession to the EEC in 1973. It allegedly predicts an ever increasing pooling of national sovereignty, policy making such as defence and economic planning, and alludes to the (as was then) future introduction of a single European currency.

If any of this reporting is accurate, it would indeed be a most interesting and historically significant document.

Given the current social and political climate we find ourselves in, the public interest case for the immediate digitisation and publication of FCO30/1048 is difficult to deny.

I have found some alleged copies of this document online, but I cannot be certain as to how trustworthy they are. I believe that journalists, historians, researchers and the public at large would welcome easy, cost effective and reliable access to these supposedly pivotal records. Indeed, it could be argued that continuing to restrict access to a small group who enjoy either the material means or the geographical proximity to view the hard copies lies at the heart of a much wider and more fundamental debate regarding democratic consent and decision making in the UK today.

Yours sincerely



Charles Naton

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