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EUROPEAN UNION
THE COUNCIL

Brussels, 16 November 1994

9125/3/94

REV 3
RESTREINT

ENFOPOL 112

ITEM "I/A" NOTE

from : the K.4 Committee

dated: 8 November 1994

to : Coreper/Council (JAI)

No. prev. doc. : 9125/2/94 ENFOPOL 112 REV 2

Subject : Compulsory introduction of safety devices, especially immobilizers, in the Commission Directive adapting to technical progress Council Directive 74/61/EEC concerning the approximation of laws of the Member States relating to devices to prevent the unauthorized use of motor vehicles

At its meeting on 8 November 1994, the K.4 Committee approved the annexed draft letters from the President of the Justice and Home Affairs Council to:

(a) European Union Commissioner Mr Padraig FLYNN and

(b) Minister for the Economy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Günter REXRODT.

The Committee of Permanent Representatives is requested to confirm this approval with a view to the adoption of the text by the Council as an A point.

Dràft Letter

from the President of the
Justice and Home Affairs Council
to European Union Commissioner
Mr Padraig FLYNN

Subject : Compulsory introduction of safety devices, especially immobilizers, in the Commission Directive adapting to technical progress Council Directive 74/61/EEC concerning the approximation of laws of the Member States relating to devices to prevent the unauthorized use of motor vehicles

Sir,

The Council takes the view that, given the staggering increase in levels of international motor-vehicle crime, the combating of such crime constitutes a particular challenge to the Member States of the European Union. The Council feels that in order to combat the organized theft of motor vehicles it is necessary to try and achieve a general improvement in security devices for motor vehicles.

In addition to measures to improve the "basic protection" of motor vehicles, e.g. improved locking systems for doors, the boot, etc., which make it difficult to break into a vehicle, the Council thinks that it is above all the incorporation of immobilizers which will prove an effective means of combating motor-vehicle crime. Immobilizers, which use coded interference with a necessary electronic steering unit to prevent any possibility of the motor vehicle even being started, are generally regarded by experts as one of the most efficient and cost-effective technical means of protection against theft.

Experience in the use of immobilizers has already produced very promising indications that they are highly efficient. In Germany, car manufacturers have already agreed that from 1 January 1995 immobilizers will be available in new motor vehicles for the German market and most manufacturers will be making them standard.

However, even such an efficient protective measure will only be effective and successful if it is also recognized and used internationally.

Agreement within the European Union has not yet been reached on this. It is therefore vital to impress upon members of the Committee on the Adaptation to Technical Progress of Directive 74/61/EEC the importance attached by the police to the compulsory introduction of immobilizers.

The Justice and Home Affairs Council has accordingly asked me to inform you of its position and request that you speed up the adaptation of this Directive.

(Complimentary close).

Draft letter

from the President of the
Justice and Home Affairs Council
to the President of the Internal Market Council,
Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Dr Günter Rexrodt

Subject : Compulsory introduction of safety devices, especially immobilizers, in the Commission Directive adapting to technical progress Council Directive 74/61/EEC concerning the approximation of laws of the Member States relating to devices to prevent the unauthorized use of motor vehicles

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Agreement within the European Union has not yet been reached on this. It is therefore vital to impress upon members of the Committee on the Adaptation to Technical Progress of Directive 74/61/EEC the importance attached by the police to making immobilizers compulsory.

The Justice and Home Affairs Council has accordingly asked me to inform you of its position and request that you speed up the adaptation of this Directive.

(Complimentary close).