

Amsterdam

9th June 2005

Dear Stuart,

You and I agree on the potential disaster for the world economy due to the US administration reckless tax cuts and military spending.



When the Crunch would come to the Crunch Europe with their Euro could fulfil an important role in mitigating insecurity caused by the US. I strongly believe that the Dutch "No" vote sees primarily to domestic issues. First of all, the word "Constitution" is wrong. The so called Constitution is nothing but a streamlined Nice Treaty and the changes were for the better. Mr de Villepin⁽⁵¹⁾ replaced Mr Raffarin as premier in France. He has the impossible task to bring down the double digit unemployment figure. Unless he is prepared

to take unpopular neo liberal measures,
he will not succeed.

The enclosed clipping from the 26th ²⁰⁰⁵ May D/H
"A dangerous game in France" by Daniel
Cohn Benoit is more to the point than
the editorial of the Times of 2nd June 2005,
if you ask me. Politicians of the Lega
Nord in Italy raise their voice for the
return of the Lira. How ~~Pathetic~~!

Do they realise that they will pay, perhaps,
12% p.a. on Lira denominated debt? Yes,
but the advantage is that nothing restrict
them to devalue the Lira! We do not
want to return to a Europe in which
every country looks after its own currency
with a sequel of competitive devaluations,
do we?

Coming Sunday (12th June) we are off to
France, Switzerland and Italy, and we'll
be back at the beginning of July.

Love from Vera and me.

Quarian