

## **DT018 - Tories and European integration**

Your leader on the Hague victory (20 June 1997) is mistaken in saying that it ends the nightmare of the Tory split. By setting the Conservative Party firmly in opposition to continuing European integration, it isolates and excludes the many Tories who support that policy.

The Amsterdam summit confirmed that, with the exception of Britain, the nations of the European Union are set on ever-closer integration including a single currency. Tories like myself who have long wished to go along with this irresistible movement now have no political home.

The only answer is to recognise that the arrival of the European dimension signalled the end of the old broad-based Conservative Party. Europhile Tories should now withdraw and form a new party which can accommodate those who, on the question of integration, wish to side with the other nations of the European Union.

Leading this breakaway would be a splendid role for our discarded champion, Ken Clarke.