

SC MASTER
OPS
OPS Subject cited on: Fishing Industry:
Fishery limits: PFS
ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 209/82 Dear Prime Minister,

Prime Minister:

You may already
Copenhagen, 4 November 1982.

be aware of this

JA
S/4

Thank you for your letter of 28 October. I agree with you that at the last meeting of the Council of Ministers for Fisheries in Luxembourg 25 - 26 October a serious effort was made to reach agreement on the main elements of the Common Fisheries Policy.

An outline of suggested solutions was finally tabled by the Commission. Although very considerable efforts had been made by the Danish Minister for Fisheries, Mr. Grove, to limit our demands to an absolute minimum, the outline, however, did not meet the minimum requirements which would have made it possible for Mr. Grove to accept it.

In view of the grave problems which can arise for the Community if a solution is not brought about in the coming days, I have considered it appropriate to inform Mr. Thorn already now that my Government cannot recommend to the relevant Parliamentary Committee that the compromise outline be accepted. In fact, the parliamentary situation is such that any attempt to obtain the approval in Parliament needed by the minority government of the present package would be certain to fail.

An agreement in the Council will be possible only if certain amendments in favour of Denmark are made.

As we have recently exchanged views regarding the negotiations of a Common Fisheries Policy, I have found it right to inform you about this situation.

I am still concerned that negotiations be brought to a successful conclusion. This would mean an important step forward for our Community.

Considering how much has already been accomplished and prepared in the field of Fisheries, very little seems to separate us from establishing a genuine Common Fisheries Policy. I entirely share your view regarding the grim alternative to a settlement. My Government has endeavoured to facilitate a solution to the Community's Fishery problems. I very much hope that Member Countries, in a last effort, will be able to agree to the adjustment necessary in order to ensure the adoption of a Common Fisheries Policy.

Yours sincerely,

Poul Schlüter.

The Rt. Hon.
Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
London S W 1.