



19
25/1
①

10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister.

I have discussed this with the
Cabinet Office & with the F.CO.
The consensus (with which Lord
Carnarvon agrees) is that your views
should be conveyed to Mr Jenkins
but that the terms suggested by
Mr Walker are extremely colourful.
It was suggested that the best way
to proceed would be for me to ring
Mr Truvel ~~Lord~~ (Mr Jenkins' Chief of
Cabinet) early to-morrow & to convey
the substance of Mr Walker's draft to him
in your name. The Commission meets on
Wednesday & a call would therefore be
timely. Agree? ||

22/1

03 PARIS

RR COPENHAGEN

RR THE HAGUE

RR ROME

RR DUBLIN

RR BONN

SFS 800

CONFIDENTIAL

(FCO PASS ADVANCE ADDRESSEES ONLY)

FM UKREP BRUSSELS 221010Z JAN 80

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 373 OF 22 JAN

AND TO IMMEDIATE PARIS.

INFO ROUTINE COPENHAGEN, THE HAGUE, ROME, DUBLIN, BONN.

SHEEPMEAT.

FOLLOWING IS A MESSAGE FROM M WALKER TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

QUOTE.

I AM SHOCKED THAT IN MY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE COMMISSIONER THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE COMMISSION WILL NOT BE SEEKING "INTERIM MEASURES" AGAINST THE FRENCH ON SHEEPMEAT. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UP TO A YEAR, AND PERHAPS EIGHTEEN MONTHS, FOR A FURTHER COURT DECISION DURING WHICH TIME THIS ILLEGAL ACTION WILL CONTINUE.

ON A MINOR QUESTION OF A PIGMEAT SUBSIDY SOME YEARS AGO THE COMMISSION IMMEDIATELY SOUGHT INTERIM MEASURES AGAINST US WHICH WERE SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED.

YOU WILL KNOW OF THE CORRESPONDENCE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN ROY JENKINS AND THE FRENCH PRIME MINISTER ON THE QUESTION OF SHEEPMEAT. I HAVE SENT A FORMAL LETTER TO GUNDELACH DEMANDING THAT INTERIM MEASURES ARE TAKEN. I THINK IT WOULD GREATLY STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION IF YOU SENT A MESSAGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES TO ROY JENKINS IMMEDIATELY. HE, I KNOW, WILL BE VERY SENSITIVE TO A DIRECT APPROACH FROM YOU, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF HIS PUBLIC PROFOUNDMENTS

FLASH

716

ADVANCE COPY

I think it would be best if Lord C. sent a message to Jenkins. We must

As
As/US
As/US
MR HARVEY
W/ED I 7

Pete Walker - but we must remember that we may be driven back up
AB OFFICE 3
MFF 3
As would download by

to later - over the comments budget -
over the comments budget -
over the comments budget -

mis.

ON THIS TOPIC WHEN HE SPOKE AT THE OXFORD CONFERENCE.

THE MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IMMEDIATELY BECAUSE THE COMMISSION WILL BE ABLE TO DECIDE ON THIS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

UNQUOTE.

FOLLOWING IS THE DRAFT TEXT SUGGESTED BY MR WALKER:

QUOTE

IN YOUR SPEECH TO THE OXFORD FARMING CONFERENCE YOU MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD DO WHATEVER IN ITS POWER TO SEE THAT FRANCE COMPLIED WITH BOTH THE TREATY AND THE COURT RULING ON THE QUESTION OF SHEEPMEAT.

I AM THEREFORE DEEPLY CONCERNED AT ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD NOT BE APPLYING FOR QUOTE INTERIM MEASURES UNQUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE TWO COURT CASES THEY ARE TAKING TO THE EUROPEAN COURT ON THIS QUESTION.

I AM TOLD THAT THE COMMISSION'S LAWYERS ARE AGREED WITH OURS THAT UNLESS INTERIM MEASURES WERE OBTAINED THERE WOULD BE NO NEW LEGAL PRESSURE ON FRANCE TO STOP IMPOSING ILLEGAL LEVIES AND ILLEGAL BANS ON OUR SHEEPMEAT FOR A FURTHER TWELVE MONTHS, WHICH IS THE TIME IT WOULD TAKE FOR THE COURT TO REACH ITS DECISIONS ON THESE NEW CASES.

THIS WOULD BE AN INTOLERABLE SITUATION AND TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, PARTICULARLY WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THAT ON A MUCH MORE MINOR QUESTION INVOLVING PIGMEAT THE COMMISSION SOUGHT AND OBTAINED INTERIM MEASURES AGAINST THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE DAMAGE WE SUFFER FROM FRENCH DEFIANCE MOUNTS DAILY AND THERE COULD NOT BE A CLEARER CASE FOR A RESTRAINING INJUNCTION OF THE SORT THAT THE INTERIM MEASURES PROCEDURE PROVIDES.

CONSIDERATIONS OF LAW AND EQUITY AND THE WHOLE STANDING OF THE COMMUNITY WOULD MAKE IT INTOLERABLE FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT, AND I WOULD PRESUME FOR THE COMMISSION, TO CONTEMPLATE A FURTHER YEAR OF INACTION.

I DO THEREFORE LOOK TO THE COMMISSION TO SEE THAT INTERIM MEASURES ARE SOUGHT AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

UNQUOTE

ENDS

FCO ADVANCE TO ACTION COPY ADDRESSEES ONLY:

- FCO - PS/LPS PS/PUS HANNAY POSTON
- CAB - PS/CAB SEC FRANKLIN WALSH
- MAFF - SIR B HAYES J READE G WILSON
- NO19 - PS/PM ALEXANDER

BUTLER

[ADVANCED AS REQUESTED]

FLASH

NNNN