

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref. A01156

PRIME MINISTER

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Cabinet: Community Affairs

The Lord Privy Seal might make a further report on his round of bilateral visits following up the Dublin European Council conclusions on our budget problem. Since last week he has held talks with the Belgians and the Commission. He will be visiting Bonn later in the day.

2. Unless the point is dealt with under the Foreign Affairs item, the Lord Privy Seal might also be invited to report on the decisions reached on Afghanistan in the 15th January Foreign Affairs Council and the associated Political Co-operation meeting. It was agreed that Community supplies should not fill the gap left by the ban on United States agricultural exports to the USSR, that the food aid programme for Afghanistan should be cancelled and that an early decision should be taken on the provision of Community aid for Afghan refugees. The French and Irish opposed any further action to limit subsidised agricultural exports from the Community. Agreement was also reached on a trade regime for Rhodesia.

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ROBERT ARMSTRONG

16th January, 1980