

GRPS 200 A

UNCLASSIFIED

FM COPENHAGEN 010950Z DECEMBER 79

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 274 OF 1 DECEMBER

INFO PRIORITY PARIS, BONN, LUXEMBOURG, UKREP BRUSSELS, ROME,
THE HAGUE, DUBLIN.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: DANISH PRESS REACTIONS.

1. BULLETINS THROUGHOUT YESTERDAY, AND COVERAGE THIS MORNING, TREATED THE MEETING AND ITS OUTCOME AS NEWS OF ONLY SECONDARY IMPORTANCE, OVERSHADOWED NOT ONLY BY THE DANISH DEVALUATION BUT ALSO OTHER DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN NEWS. THE GENERAL LINE IS UNSYMPATHETIC, REFLECTING MR. ANKER JORGENSEN'S CLAIM THAT IT WAS WRONG TO SPEAK OF SOME BEING MORE DISPOSED TO MAKE CONCESSIONS TO US THAN OTHERS, AND THAT THERE WAS A FIRM 8-1 LINE-UP. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS OF SHARP EXCHANGES BETWEEN MR. JORGENSEN AND MRS. THATCHER, AND EVEN THAT QUOTE MR. JORGENSEN IN REALITY ASSUMED THE ROLE THAT OTHERWISE HAD BEEN EXPECTED OF PRESIDENT GISCARD UNQUOTE. AS TO THE FUTURE, THERE IS A CLEAR TENDENCY TO MAKE A LINK BETWEEN BRITISH CONCESSIONS ON OIL AND FISH, AND ANY POSSIBILITY OF PROGRESS ON THE BUDGET.

2. ONLY POLITIKEN (RADICAL) COMMENTS EDITORIALY. IT TAKES THE LINE THAT THE BUDGET QUESTION HAS BEEN GIVEN INFLATED IMPORTANCE AND HAS BECOME A MATTER OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESTIGE FOR MRS. THATCHER. QUOTE E.E.C. CO-OPERATION WILL AT BEST NOW BE PARALYSED IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AREAS, UNTIL A COMPROMISE IS FOUND UNQUOTE.

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