

Kwo Rd.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

12 December 1979

[Handwritten scribble]
19
Phms

Phms
Phms

(3)

London is brief to
Phms
2015 this is Brussels this evening. If it were agreed that the
Dear Michael, had a should stop, the Commission would have to be told to stop paying export
restitutions
Call by Mr Scott-Hopkins: EEC Food Sales to Iran

Phms
12/12/79

In your letter of 7 December you asked whether there was any truth in the assertion by Mr Scott-Hopkins that EEC agricultural surpluses were at present being sold to Iran. This is indeed the case. Neither we nor the Ministry of Agriculture have all the figures, but we have asked UKREP Brussels to try to obtain them from the Commission. Below are the figures we do have for the three commodities in major surplus:-

Iranian Imports

[Handwritten scribble]

	<u>From EEC</u>	<u>From UK</u>
Butter	19,000 tons (Jan/June 1979)	4 tons (Jan/Sept 1979) 26 tons (1978)
Sugar	555,000 tons (1978)	62 tons (Jan/Sept 1979)
Cereals	not available	Barley - 750 tons (Jan/Sept 1979) Wheat flour - 1,980 tons (Jan/Sept 1979)

It is clear that the trade continues, but the UK's direct involvement is very small. We have not been able to work out the value of the export restitutions involved except in the case of butter. For the period above (Jan-June 1979) they were valued at approximately £20 million. I am sending a copy of this letter to Tony Battishill (Treasury) and Garth Waters (MAFF).

Yours etc
Paul
(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

12 DEC 1979

