

SUBJECT

WELLINGTON DECKTY 212100Z

OPS 100

cc/master
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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 244 B/80

CONFIDENTIAL

DECKTY 212100Z

FM FOR 201601Z DEC 80

TO IMMEDIATE WELLINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 226 OF 20 DECEMBER

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER:POST 1980 ACCESS.

1. GREATFUL YOU ARRANGE TO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE
PRIME MINISTER TO MR. MULDOON ASAP:-

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF 12 DECEMBER AND FOR ARRANGING
THROUGH YOUR HIGH COMMISSION FOR ME TO SEE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER
OF THE SAME DATE TO PRESIDENT GISCARD.

YOU WILL ALREADY KNOW THE RESULT OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AGRICULTURE COUNCIL ON 16TH DECEMBER. IT IS EXTREMELY FRUSTRATING
THAT DESPITE ALL OUR EFFORTS, AND YOURS, IT HAS STILL NOT PROVED
POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A LONG TERM ARRANGEMENT.

HOWEVER, GIVEN FRENCH INTRANSIGENCE, ROLLING THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS
FORWARD INTO JANUARY IS CLEARLY THE BEST WAY OF AVOIDING ANY
PREJUDICE TO NEW ZEALAND'S POSITION PENDING THE FUTURE ATTEMPT
TO REACH SETTLEMENT WHICH IS NOW NECESSARY. IT IS SATISFACTORY
MEANWHILE THAT WE SECURED AGREEMENT THAT THE ROLL FORWARD SHOULD
BE ON PRECISELY THE SAME BASIS AS THE EXISTING 1980 ARRANGEMENT
PARTICULARLY ON QUANTITIES, TO WHICH I KNOW THAT YOU ATTACHED
GREAT IMPORTANCE.

I FULLY APPRECIATE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR YOUR PRODUCERS OF THIS
SITUATION, AND THE UNCERTAINTY IT WILL CAUSE. WE SHALL OF COURSE
CONTINUE TO KEEP UP THE PRESSURE FOR EARLY AGREEMENT
ON ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LONGER TERM.

IT IS AS IMPORTANT FOR US AS IT IS FOR YOU TO ENSURE THAT THE
BUTTER ISSUE IS SETTLED ON REASONABLE TERMS. OUR PARTNERS, AND THE
FRENCH IN PARTICULAR, KNOW THIS.

CARRINGTON.