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cc - Cabinet Office
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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON SW1A 2HH



From the Minister

CONFIDENTIAL

2 December 1981

PRIME MINISTER

Robert Munn

Further to our conversations this morning, I have today spoken to the Germans and the Danes. The Germans have informed me that they could not accept the French formula on discriminating in favour of small producers. They could accept a move to exempt a percentage of each holding's milk from levy, but with a limit on the quantity thus exempted. They see this as ensuring that the part-time farmer gains less advantage from the exemption than the full-time. The limit on the quantity exempted would however still mean that this discriminated in favour of small producers. They stated, however, that they would basically prefer there to be no discrimination between small and large producers.

On the question of discriminating against the larger farmer, again advocated strongly by France, they said that they consider this would prove to be impossible.

They are deeply concerned about opening up the prospects for Mediterranean products and intend to continue to pursue a hard line on this topic. They have stated, however, that they will be working during this coming week upon wordings and that they will confer again with me during next week.

I spoke to the Danish Minister who, I might say, sounded somewhat pessimistic about the prospects of his Party winning the Election, using the phrase "I am doing well in my district but I am worried about what is happening in the rest of the country". But he stated that his Government would remain totally firm on their objection to discrimination in favour of the small producer and were relieved to hear that we were continuing a hard line on this topic. He also stated that it was the view of the Danish Government that no progress would be made and no settlement would take place prior to April.

I am copying this minute to Peter Carrington and Geoffrey Howe.

Peter Walker

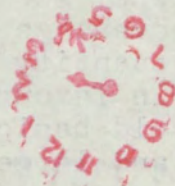
PETER WALKER



London, 19th December 1961

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the proposed amendment to the regulations governing the export of certain types of fish. The Department is currently reviewing the proposals and will be in a position to advise you further in due course.



Yours faithfully,
22 DEC 1961

I am, Sir, very grateful for your interest in the proposed amendment to the regulations governing the export of certain types of fish. The Department is currently reviewing the proposals and will be in a position to advise you further in due course.

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