

Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SW1A 2AH

1 December 1982

Jen John,

With your letter of 30 November, you enclosed a letter from the Prime Minister of Denmark to the Prime Minister about the European Council. I attach a draft reply for the Prime Minister to send, which has been agreed by all the Departments to whom your letter was copied. As you will see, the only substantive point we recommend the Prime Minister to make is about fisheries.

Mr Schlüter says that the Presidency will report on the budget problem but that he does not envisage any substantial discussion. This will enable the Prime Minister to speak on the subject and we see no need for her to comment further in her reply to Mr Schlüter. To do so we would only alert others and increase the chances that they will come to the Council armed with lengthy, defensive speeches.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Van en.

(R B Bone) Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq 10 Downing Street DSR 1 (Revised)

Copies to:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Type place.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

SUBJECT:

Thank you for your letter of 26 November. It was most useful to have this indication of how you see our discussions in Copenhagen on Friday and Saturday, and I very much agree with the way you propose to organise the proceedings.

I note that, in addition to the subjects specifically mentioned in your letter, you envisage that further issues may be raised by any Heads of Government. I have now received a report on the meeting of Fisheries Ministers on 29 November and Iam surethat, as I told you in London, we shall need to have a thorough discussion about the Common Fisheries Policy. I am sure that you will find that others, as well as myself, will wish this.

100 /12.

11 12 1 23 A 9 9 7 6 3