

Soviet Union

N 03253

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE

A.J.C. 4/3

f-a.

c Mr Coles, 10 Downing Street ✓

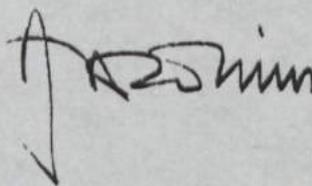
UK/USSR MARITIME TREATY: NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES

- original in PM Box (copy attached)

1. Mr Sproat's minute to you of 22 March seeks MISC 19's endorsement of the commercial objectives to be pursued in renegotiating the Anglo-Soviet Maritime Treaty. He records that you have already agreed his proposals. He also notes that our security objectives in relation to Soviet merchant shipping are being considered separately by Ministers in the Defence and Oversea Policy Committee. In fact, a Note by Officials for clearance out of Committee by OD is expected to be circulated in the week beginning 28 March.

2. It might expedite matters to set a timescale for the replies of colleagues on MISC 19. You may therefore care to reply to Mr Sproat endorsing the objectives he proposes, and adding that you will assume that no meeting of MISC 19 will be required unless colleagues indicate otherwise by 5 April.

... I attach a draft.



D H COLVIN

Cabinet Office

24 March 1983

DRAFT MINUTE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE TO:

THE PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE,
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE (MR SPROAT)

UK/USSR MARITIME TREATY: NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES

1. Thank you for your minute of 22 March.
2. I am entirely content with the commercial negotiating objectives you propose. As you have noted, our security objectives in renegotiating the Treaty are under consideration by the Defence and Overseas Policy Committee.
3. Unless colleagues on MISC 19 indicate to the contrary by 5 April, I shall assume that silence means consent and that the Group will not need to meet to discuss the subject.
4. I am copying this minute to the Prime Minister, colleagues on MISC 19 and Sir Robert Armstrong.

March 1983

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Pt 3

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