

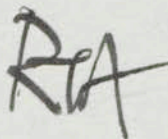
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PRIME MINISTERCabinet: Community Affairs

The Minister of Agriculture may wish to report on the outcome of the 31 March - 2 April Agriculture Council. No agreement was reached on CAP prices or on any of the non-price commodity issues. The United Kingdom was far from isolated on the non-price issues. The Commission compromise proposal for an average 10.5 per cent price increase (instead of 9 per cent in their original proposal) remains on the table and will be taken up at the next meeting of the Council on 20-22 April where it is possible that the other nine will reach agreement, at least on prices. There was an acrimonious discussion about green rates pending the price settlement at the end of the Council on Friday evening. As a result, Denmark's monetary compensatory amount will now be eliminated, unless Italy and Greece both object; but no other changes in green rates were agreed.

2. The Presidency decided to postpone the Foreign Affairs Council meeting to discuss the mandate scheduled for 3 April because Lord Carrington was unable to attend. The next discussion of the mandate is now likely to be on the second day of the regular April meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council - 26-27 April.

3. The Secretary of State for Employment is currently attending an informal meeting of Employment Ministers on 5-6 April in Brussels.



ROBERT ARMSTRONG

5th April 1982