

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

2 October 1985

Mr Neil Walter Acting High Commissioner New Zealand High Commission New Zealand House Haymarket SW1Y 4TQ

My deer Weil,

I am writing, in confirmation of our conversation yesterday, to say that the Prime Minister looks forward to the High Commissioner (Mr Bryce Harland, who arrives in London on 15 October) calling on her at 10 Downing Street at 9.30 am on Friday 22 November in order to present the letter of introduction from his Prime Minister, the Rt Hon D R Lange.

I am writing separately about Mr Harland's initial courtesy calls on Ministers and senior officials of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

S W F Martin

Assistant Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps

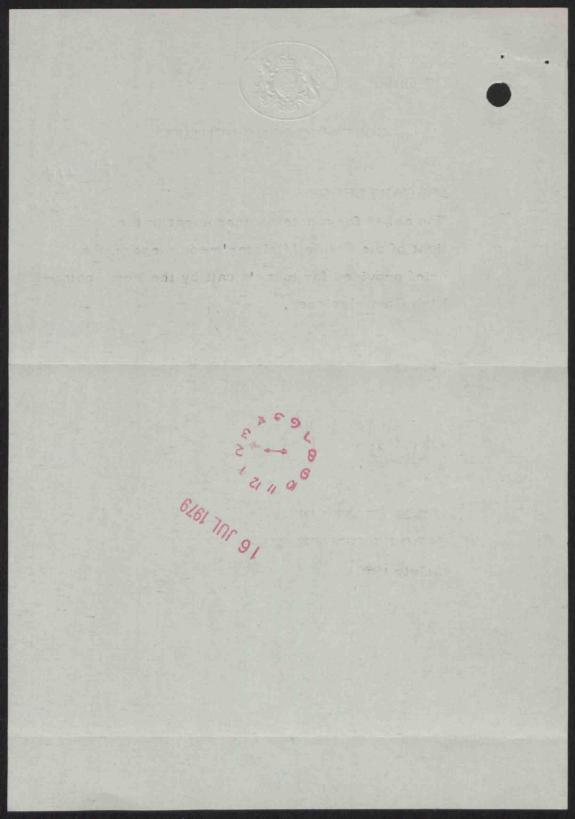
Bcc: Mrs Pyder, 10 Downing St
Miss Phillips, Private Office
Mr Furness (SPD). Could briefing
please reach No 10 by the
evening of Thursday 21 November

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New Lealand QZ 01166 COVERING CONFIDENTIAL MR CARTLEDGE You asked for a note on sheepmeat in the light of the Prime Minister's comment on the brief provided for today's call by the New Zealand High Commissioner. M D M FRANKLIN CABINET OFFICE SWI 16 July 1979



SHEEPMEAT AND NEW ZEALAND

- We have no choice but to accept some kind of sheepmeat regime because Article 38 of the Treaty of Rome provides for a common market in agricultural products, including sheepmeat. This does not oblige us to agree to any particular form of regime but it does mean that we cannot oppose the adoption of a regime in principle.
- 2. The French currently restrict imports of sheepmeat from the United Kingdom to protect their market, in which prices for producers are much higher than in the United Kingdom. The Commission have challenged these restrictions in the European Court and the French will almost certainly lose their case - judgement will probably be given in September. accordingly pressing hard for the introduction of a Community regime.
- This French demand puts us in a strong position to insist on the kind of regime that suits our interests and those of the New Zealanders. tried, notwithstanding the Treaty provisions, to oppose a regime of any kind we should thus deprive ourselves of this leverage.
- A sheepmeat regime would in fact give us better access to the continental market for our exports of fresh sheepmeat. It would therefore represent an improvement of the present position, provided that our supplies of cheap frozen sheepmeat from New Zealand are not threatened and that the budgetary cost of the regime is kept within reasonable limits. But some limit on exports of frozen sheepmeat from New Zealand is probably inevitable.
- Although Mr Muldoon would prefer there to be no sheepmeat regime, the New Zealanders generally now probably accept that its introduction in some form cannot be avoided. Their concern and ours will be to ensure continuing access to the United Kingdom market, if possible with growth in the future.

16 July 1979 Cabinet Office



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London SW1A 2AH

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13 July 1979

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Introductory Call on the Prime Minister by the New Zealand

High Commissioner on 16 July

I enclose a brief, and a personality note on Mr Gander, in preparation for his call on the Prime Minister.

(J S Wall)

Private Secretary

Bryan G Cartledge Esq 10 Downing Street LONDON