

UNCLASSIFIED
FM UKREP BRUSSELS
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO 1864
OF 301730Z MAY 86
INFO PRIORITY PARIS, WELLINGTON

FRAME EXTERNAL/AGRICULTURE

EC/NEW ZEALAND

1. THE NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER, MR LONGE GAVE A HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS THIS AFTERNOON. HE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS OF RELEVANCE TO EC/NEW ZEALAND RELATIONS.

- (I) IN AN EARLIER ROUND OF TALKS THE COMMUNITY HAD MADE A TENTATIVE SUGGESTION OF BUTTER IMPORTS OF 77,000 TONNES FOR 1987 AND 75,000 TONNES FOR 1988. HE HOPED THAT THESE FIGURES WOULD BE MAINTAINED IN NEGOTIATION. HE FEARED THAT THEY MIGHT BE CUT.
- (II) HE HAD NO INTENTION OF NEGOTIATING UNDER DURESS, NOR OF ALLOWING THE TURENGS TO GO FREE. THEY HAD PLEADED GUILTY AND HAD NOT APPEALED.
- (III) NEW ZEALAND RELATIONS WITH FRANCE NEEDED TO BE NORMALISED. HE WOULD NOT BE VISITING FRANCE DURING HIS PRESENT TRIP AND THE FRENCH HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS WOULD BE "INAPPROPRIATE".

2. HE APPARENTLY HAD QUITE A SHARP EXCHANGE WITH SOME FRENCH REPORTERS. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION HE AFFIRMED HIS RIGHT TO CRITICISE THE ACTION OF A SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT. "I COULD GIVE YOU A CATALOGUE OF OTHER COUNTRIES WHO HAVE CRITICISED ME" AND ADDED THAT WHILE HE LIKE PERRIER, CITROEN AND RENAULT CARS HE DIDN'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO BLEW UP SHIPS IN NEW ZEALAND HARBOURS.

HANNAY

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MAIN
FRAME EXTERNAL/AGRICULTURE
ADDITIONAL
SHEPHERD FCO
WALL FCO
HEAD SWPD FCO
WILLIAMSON CAB
JAY CAB
ANDREWS MAFF

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

FRAME EXTERNAL / AGRICULTURE
ECO (E)
ECO (I)
SPD

COPIES TO:
MR WILLIAMSON } CABINET
MR JAY } OFFICE
MR ANDREWS, MAFF.