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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

3 November 1982

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T200A/82

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 21 October. I am delighted that confrontation was avoided at the Fisheries Council earlier this week. The path of negotiation and compromise was taken, as you and I both earnestly wished. Peter Walker tells me that much credit is due to Mr. Henning Christophersen, whose conduct of the meeting was in the very best traditions of a Community Presidency.

Compromise proposals were made on two of the three issues you particularly mentioned.

I am sorry that this was insufficient to enable your delegation to agree the final Commission proposals then and there, and all our colleagues in the Community hope that your Government and Parliament will accept the final settlement when it is explained to them.

It is very clear that the negotiation is now ended, and that there is no prospect of further adaptation of the proposals.

The alternative is agonisingly clear. If Denmark cannot signal her agreement all prospect of successful negotiation of a Common Fisheries Policy will disappear, perhaps for some considerable time.

/ Our industries

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Our industries will be plunged into a further period of uncertainty. The problems of the last few years have left them in a desperately weakened state, and painful and potentially divisive measures will have to be taken on a national basis to protect them and the stocks they fish. Such a position will certainly be far worse than the much improved proposals that are now on offer for Denmark. If Denmark can agree, there will be every hope and expectation that a well regulated regime will form the basis for rebuilding the stocks and our fishing industries. It will be a triumph for Europe, and a great triumph for the Danish Presidency.

I am well aware of some at least of the tremendous political pressures upon you. If you can overcome them, you will earn the gratitude and admiration of myself and all those who wish to see Europe succeed, and European fishing industries flourish.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Mr. Poul Schlüter

file

OSG
Fishing Incl.

3 November 1982

FISHERIES

I asked you on the telephone yesterday if you would kindly take action to retrieve the letter which the Prime Minister signed to Mr. Jørgensen on this subject. I now enclose a letter addressed to Mr. Schlüter, and would be grateful if you could arrange for its delivery.

A. J. COLES

Roger Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

I am afraid that you signed
a letter to the previous Daniel
Prime Minister. It should
have been to Mr. Schlüter.

" Dear Prime Minister "

A. J. C. $\frac{2}{11}$

1. Thought we
had to provide
copies to
me



File 1/6
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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 October 1982

COMMON FISHERIES POLICY

The Prime Minister has seen your Secretary of State's minute of 27 October and the proposed letter from Mrs. Thatcher to the Danish Prime Minister on the above subject.

The Prime Minister agrees that this message should be sent immediately. I should accordingly be grateful if Roger Bone would telegraph the text to Copenhagen for urgent delivery. A signed version of the letter will follow in due course.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Roger Bone (FCO) and Muir Russell (Scottish Office).

A. J. COLES

Robert Lowson, Esq.,
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Food.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD
WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON S.W.1



From the Minister

Prime Minister

Mr. Waller is most anxious that this message should be despatched before you go to bed. but it arrived only this evening and I think we must give the Foreign Secretary a chance to comment.

PRIME MINISTER

27 October 1982

Agree, subject to Mr. Pym's views?

A.J.C. 27/10

-- I am very anxious that every pressure is now put on Denmark to accept the fishing agreement. You have not replied to the letter from the Danish Prime Minister and I enclose a draft which you might consider sending immediately to him.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Foreign Secretary, the Secretary of State for Scotland and Sir Robert Armstrong.

I am quite
to sign the letter
not
revised
R Lora

for PETER WALKER
Dictated by Mr Walker
and signed in his absence



DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEND TO THE DANISH PRIME MINISTER

FISHERIES COUNCIL: 25/26 OCTOBER

Thank you for your letter of 22~~nd~~ October. I am delighted that, confrontation was avoided at the Fisheries Council earlier this week. The path of negotiation and compromise was taken, as you and I both earnestly wished. ^{Peter Walløe} ~~My Minister of Agriculture~~ tells me that much credit is due to Mr Henning Christophersen, whose conduct of the meeting was in the very best traditions of a Community Presidency.

Compromise proposals were made on two of the three issues you particularly mentioned.

I am sorry that this was insufficient to enable your delegation to agree the final Commission proposals then and there, and all our ^{Community} colleagues in the / hope that your Government and Parliament will accept the final settlement when it is explained to them.

It is very clear that the negotiation is now ended, and that there is no prospect of further adaptation of the proposals.

The alternative is agonisingly clear. If Denmark cannot signal her agreement all prospect of successful negotiation of a Common Fisheries Policy will disappear, perhaps for some considerable time. Our industries will be plunged into a further period of uncertainty. The problems of the last few years have left them in a desperately weakened state, and painful and potentially divisive measures will have to be taken on a national basis to protect them and the stocks



they fish. Such a position will certainly be far worse than the much improved proposals that are now on offer for Denmark. If Denmark can agree, there will be every hope and expectation that a well regulated regime will form the basis for rebuilding the stocks and our fishing industries. It will be a triumph for Europe, and a great triumph for the Danish Presidency.

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27 OCT 1982

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