

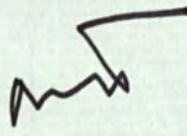
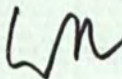
PRIME MINISTER

FISHERIES STATEMENT

After Mr. Fowler's statement on the NHS dispute, Mr. Walker reported on the Fisheries Council. He said that the Danes would be considering the fisheries package tomorrow. If they could not agree the package, the Fisheries Council would discuss the matter again before the end of the month, and would consider the imposition of national measures. He was confident that these national measures would be imposed with the agreement of the Commission, and would be enforced everywhere except Danish territorial waters. There would be no "fishing up to the beaches". Enforcement would be a matter for each Member State individually.

The Opposition went through the usual ritual condemning the package as a sell-out that had not been agreed by the industry. But their opposition was half-hearted.

A number of Members, on both sides of the House, asked Mr. Walker to press you to raise the matter at the Copenhagen Summit in December if the Danes failed to agree the fisheries package tomorrow. Mr. Walker said that he would convey this message to you.

9 November 1982

FISHING IND -

Wm 10/11



Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

From the Minister's Private Office

W Rickett Esq
Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

9 November 1982

Dear Willie

COUNCIL OF FISHERIES MINISTERS: 8 NOVEMBER 1982

I attach a copy of the statement which Mr Walker hopes to make in the House today. I would be grateful for immediate clearance.

I am copying this letter to Bernard Ingham; David Heyhoe (Leader of the House's Office); Murdo Maclean (Whip's Office, Commons); Michael Pownall (Whip's Office, Lords); David Wright (Cabinet Office); Keith Long (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office) and to Private Secretaries of the other Agriculture Ministers and members of the OD(E).

Yours sincerely
Robert Lawson

ROBERT LAWSON
Private Secretary

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (FISHERIES): 8 NOVEMBER 1982

DRAFT PARLIAMENTARY STATEMENT

With permission, Mr Speaker, I would like to make a statement on the meeting of the Council of Fisheries Ministers held in Brussels on 8 November. I represented the United Kingdom, accompanied by my Rt Hon friends the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Minister of State.

The Danish Minister told the Council that his Government were unable to accept the package of measures which had been proposed by the Commission and agreed by 9 Member States at the Council on 25/26 October, and specifically informed the Council that they required licences in the North of Scotland box, quotas of west coast mackerel and improvements in their quotas of cod, haddock and saithe in the North Sea. The United Kingdom and 8 other Member States informed the Danish Minister that there would be no way in which they would agree to change the agreement of 25/26 October. The Commission suggested talks with the Danish Minister on any matters outside the agreement that could enable the Danish Minister to approve the package. At the conclusion of many hours of talks the Danish Minister informed the Council that no suggestions had been made that would enable the Danish Government to give its agreement. The Commission and all the 9 other Member States expressed their strong disappointment and disapproval at the Danish Government's attitude. Following these expressions of disapproval, the Danish Deputy Prime Minister, who presided at the Council, proposed a suspension to enable the Danish Government to consider their position further. The Danish Minister then informed the Council that his Government would consider approval of the package at a meeting tomorrow, 10 November, and would then tell the Commission

/whether or

whether or not they could approve the package agreed by the other
9 Member States.

I hope that the Danish Government will approve the package. But if they
do not, the Council agreed to resume discussions before the end of the
month in order to consider what national measures would be necessary
to conserve Community fishing stocks and to allocate them fairly between
Member States.