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DESKBY 191200Z
FROM UKREP BRUSSELS 181000Z
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 4951 OF 18 DECEMBER 1982

MESSAGE FROM THORN TO PRIME MINISTER

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT THORN TO THE PRIME MINISTER RECEIVED THIS MORNING:

DEAR PRIME MINISTER

THANK YOU FOR WRITING TO ME ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS WITH JAPAN AND SPAIN. MR DAVIGNON HAD SPOKEN TO ME ABOUT THESE AFTER HIS RETURN FROM LONDON.

ON JAPAN, THE COUNCIL AS YOU KNOW, ARRIVED AT SOME HELPFUL CONCLUSIONS ON MONDAY, AND WE WERE GRATEFUL FOR THE STOUT SUPPORT THE COMMISSION RECEIVED FROM PETER REES AND HIS OFFICIALS IN STEERING OUR PROPOSALS THROUGH. I UNDERSTAND THE PRESSURES YOU ARE UNDER. ON TIMING, WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST OVER THE NEXT TWO MONTHS TO SECURE APPROPRIATE ASSURANCES FROM THE JAPANESE. WE WANT JAPAN TO PURSUE A POLICY OF CLEARLY-DEFINED AND EFFECTIVE EXPORT MODERATION IN SENSITIVE SECTORS. WE SHALL OF COURSE ENCOUNTER DELAYING TACTICS, BUT IF THE JAPANESE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS UNITED FRONT, I THINK WE SHALL END UP WITH THE RIGHT RESULT. THE COUNCIL WILL BE HAVING A FURTHER LOOK AT ALL THIS ON JANUARY 24/25 ON THE BASIS OF AN INTERIM REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION.

AS REGARDS SPAIN I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE COMMISSION IS WELL AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS MENTIONED IN YOUR LETTER. I HAVE PERSONALLY UNDERLINED IN CONVERSATIONS WITH THE NEW SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF ACHIEVING CONCRETE RESULTS ON THIS SENSITIVE MATTER. THIS ALSO CAME OUT CLEARLY IN VICE PRESIDENT NATALI'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS EARLIER THIS WEEK. AS DECIDED BY THE COUNCIL, THE COMMISSION WILL NOW GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CAR INDUSTRY AND MIGHT THEN PROCEED TO HOLDING TALKS, WITH THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES. WE WILL REPORT TO THE JANUARY COUNCIL. I FIRMLY HOPE THAT ON THAT OCCASION WE SHALL BE ABLE TO REGISTER PROGRESS TOWARDS A SOLUTION OF THESE MATTERS.

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Norway

MAY I ADD A WORD ABOUT THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COMMON FISHERIES POLICY. WE WILL, I HOPE, BE ABLE TO SECURE AN AGREEMENT ON DECEMBER 21 TO THE PRESENT PROPOSALS. IT WILL BE NECESSARY, HOWEVER, TO GIVE DENMARK EASTERN MACKEREL FOR 1983, SOME FORM OF ASSURANCE ABOUT THE CONTINUATION OF ITS MACKEREL FISHERY ON THE EASTERN STOCK AND A FORM OF STAYING POWER TO SOME SMALL ADDITIONS, ALREADY MADE, TO ITS 1982 WHITE FISH QUOTA IN THE NORTH SEA. IF WE CAN FIND A FORMULA ON THESE POINTS, DENMARK WILL DROP ITS CLAIMS TO FISH WESTERN MACKEREL AND FOR LICENCES IN THE SHETLAND BOX. THIS WILL THEN PAVE THE WAY FOR A FINAL AGREEMENT WHICH WILL BE FOR EVERYONE'S BENEFIT.

SINCERELY YOURS
GASTON E THORN

2. MAFF INFORMED BY TELEPHONE OF CONTENTS OF PARA 4. RESIDENT CLERK PLEASE INFORM SPRECKLEY (ECD(1)).

FCO ADVANCE TO:-

FCO - EVANS HANNAY CROWE SPRECKLEY
CAB - HANCOCK MS LAMBERT
DOT - GRAY SUNDERLAND MS LACKEY
MAFF - ANDREWS MASON POOLEY PACKER
TSY - LITTLER

BUTLER

ADVANCED AS REQUESTED

LIMITED

ECD(E)

ECD(I)

SED

FED

WED

NEWS.D.

PS

PS/MR. HURD

PS/PUS

SIR J. BULLARD

MR. EVANS

MR. HANNAY

MR. GOODISON

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