

Fish

9. Herr Genscher said there was one particular problem he wished to bring to Mr Pym's attention. The Canadians had not yet given the Germans all the licences to which the FRG considered it was entitled in Canadian waters. The ostensible reason for this was a Canadian complaint that their sales of certain fish products to the Community were at an unsatisfactorily low level. The problem lay with a particular product which appealed principally to the UK market. In 1980, the UK had taken about 82% of Canadian sales of this product to the Community. In the subsequent year the UK had radically reduced its imports. Last year we had increased our take to about 50% of the amount the Canadians wish to sell in the Community.

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The Canadians had been unable, however, to dispose of most of the rest. Herr Genscher said he would be very grateful if the UK could consider the possibility of increasing its quota this year. This was an urgent matter of great importance to the FRG and he would be very grateful for any help the UK could provide. Mr Pym said that the whole question of import quotas for fish or fish products was an extremely difficult one and he could make no promises other than to have the question examined.

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John Robert

A.F.C. 2/2

Canada: Fish

We spoke on Friday evening about a point concerning exports of Canadian fish product raised both by Kohl and Genscher in their talks at Chequers on Friday. I enclose the relevant extract from the record of Mr Pym's talks with Genscher. I should be grateful for advice on the line Mr Pym should take in reply.

I am copying this letter to John Colés at No 10.

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

R C Lowson Esq
PS/MAFF

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