



file Kb
Australia

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

8 October 1980

MESSAGE TO MR. FRASER

I enclose the signed text of a letter from the Prime Minister to Mr. Malcolm Fraser in response to Mr. Fraser's letter of 25 September. As you will see, the text is based on, but is not identical with, that enclosed with your letter to me of 3 October.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to David Jones (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T199/80 10 DOWNING STREET



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THE PRIME MINISTER

8 October 1980

Ken Nicholson.

Thank you for your letter of 25 September.

You will already be aware that final agreement was reached on a sheepmeat regime at the Agriculture Council on 30 September. The Community is now aiming to implement on 20 October the new agreements which have been negotiated with Australia and the other significant supplier countries.

The fact that Mr. Anthony was able to reach agreement with the Commission on acceptable terms gives me and my Cabinet colleagues great satisfaction. As you will recall, earlier this year we successfully forestalled pressures for unbinding the tariff, with all the damage that would have done to the Community's relations with our traditional suppliers.

It is all the more gratifying that it has now been possible to reconcile adoption of an internal Community regime with the safeguarding of the legitimate interests of traditional suppliers, and that our pressure for a halving of your tariff and a quota based upon your traditional exports proved effective.

Like you, I hope that this agreement will be a step towards a sounder economic and trading relationship between Australia

/ and

and the European Community. This is of course something which we have consistently worked for, and you can rest assured that we shall continue to do so.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Redden

The Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, C.H., M.P.

RF



2pps
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 October 1980

Dear Mike,

Message to the Prime Minister from the Prime Minister of
Australia: Voluntary Restraint Arrangement for Sheepmeat

Thank you for your letter of 25 September which crossed
Stephen Gomersall's letter to you.

I attach a draft reply to Mr Fraser, the text of
which has been cleared with the MAFF and the DOT.

I am copying this letter to Garth Waters (MAFF),
Stuart Hampson (DOT) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

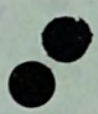
M A Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MALCOLM FRASER, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

Thank you for your letter of 25 September. You will already be aware that final agreement was reached on the EC sheepmeat regime at the Agriculture Council on 30 September including, I am glad to say, endorsement of the outcome of the Commission's negotiations with Mr Anthony.

The fact that Mr Anthony was able to reach agreement with the Commission on terms acceptable to you gives me and my Cabinet colleagues great satisfaction. As you will recall, earlier this year we successfully forestalled pressures for unbinding the tariff on lamb and mutton with all the damage that would have done to the Community's relations with our traditional suppliers. It is therefore all the more gratifying that it has been possible to reconcile adoption of an internal Community regime with the safeguarding of the legitimate interests of traditional suppliers such as Australia and New Zealand. ^A Like you I hope that this agreement will be a step towards a sounder economic and trading relationship between Australia and the European Community. This is of course something which we have consistently worked for and you can rest assured that we shall continue to do so. ^A

13 OCT 1930



Faint, mostly illegible text covering the main body of the page, possibly a letter or report.



From the Minister's
Private Office

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

Draft to come as

amended.

Paul

Michael Alexander Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1

3 October 1980

Dear Michael

My Minister has seen the draft message about the Community agreement on sheepmeat for the Prime Minister to send to her counterpart in Australia, about which Foreign Office officials consulted ours yesterday. He has asked that the message should be amended and I attach a revised draft which he has prepared.

I am copying this letter to Paul Lever (FCO).

Yours sincerely

David Jones

D E JONES
Assistant Private
Secretary

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
MALCOLM FRASER, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

Thank you for your letter of 25 September.

You will already be aware that final agreement was reached on a sheepmeat regime at the Agriculture Council on 30 September. The Community is now aiming to implement on 20 October the new agreements which have been negotiated with Australia and the other significant supplier countries.

The fact that Mr Anthony was able to reach agreement with the Commission on acceptable terms gives me and my Cabinet colleagues great satisfaction. As you will recall, earlier this year we successfully ~~negotiated arrangements which~~ forestalled pressures for unbinding the tariff, with all the damage that would have done to ^{the Community's} ~~our~~ relations with our traditional suppliers.

It is ~~therefore~~ all the more gratifying that ~~matters have now~~
→ ~~come to a satisfactory conclusion.~~ We pressed for a halving
of your tariff and a quota based upon your traditional exports. ~~I~~
I am pleased that we ~~succeeded~~ ^{achieved} ~~on your behalf.~~ proved effective.

^{now} it has been possible to reconcile adoption of an internal
Community regime with the safeguarding of the legitimate
interests of traditional suppliers & that our purpose

[A-A attached]

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= 3 OCT 1980

Australians

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

await draft
1/x. Then to MOOSA.
see MAFF 13 ECO 25/9.

MAFF 26/1/x

26 September 1980

Dear Mike,

MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA:
 VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENT FOR SHEEPMEAT

The Australian High Commissioner called on the Lord Privy Seal on 25 September to deliver the attached letter from Mr Fraser to the Prime Minister.

Sir J Plimsoll said that Mr Anthony's final meeting with Mr. Gundelach in Brussels last week had resulted in agreement on a Voluntary Restraint Arrangement for sheepmeat which Australia could live with. This would be discussed at the 30 September Agriculture Council and the Australian Government hoped the United Kingdom would do everything in its power to secure its acceptance by the Council.

The Lord Privy Seal assured Sir J Plimsoll that we wished to see the sheepmeat agreements enter into force as soon as possible. There were some indications that the French might now be prepared for the regime to begin on 15 October and, while there could be no guarantee, we should do our best to ensure that it did. As to how to achieve that result, the tactical judgement would have to be left to Mr Walker.

We have informed the relevant division of the MAFF of this Australian approach. I understand that the briefing they are providing for next Tuesday's Agriculture Council already covers Australian concerns. In the circumstances the Prime Minister may prefer to await the outcome of the Agriculture Council before sending Mr Fraser a substantive reply. I shall aim to let you have a draft on 1 October.

Yours ever
S J Gomersall

S J Gomersall
 Private Secretary to the
 Lord Privy Seal

M A Pattison Esq

1981

11/11/81

26 SEP 1981

