



CONFIDENTIAL

*H. Am*

*Prime Minister*

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*Am*

*ms.*

FCS/80/123

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

New Zealand Butter

1. New Zealand butter is on the agenda for your Agriculture Council on 22 July. But in response to prompting from us and Gundelach, Haferkamp has said that he too will raise the subject over our lunch or at the Foreign Affairs Council the same day.
2. The detailed discussion will, of course, take place in the Agriculture Council. But as I have suggested in earlier correspondence it may be easier to persuade Foreign Ministers to take full account of the broader political and economic considerations and that is why I intend to weigh in strongly when the subject comes up.
3. My basic point will be that fair treatment for New Zealand is strongly in the interest of the Community as a whole. This is the argument which will carry weight with at least some of our partners (and even the French, with their important interests in the South Pacific, are not entirely immune to it) and it is the argument which the Commission and the Germans will use. I shall lay less emphasis on the particular United Kingdom interest in New Zealand because although this is well known to our partners, it is not an argument which particularly counts with them. I shall at the same time, of course, stress the great political importance which the United Kingdom attaches to a satisfactory Community position.
4. Since we shall both perhaps find ourselves talking about this subject at the same time, I thought that it would be useful

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to set out how I propose to proceed on the broad political front so that we do not find ourselves saying different things.

5. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Prime Minister, other members of OD(E) and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

A handwritten signature, appearing to be 'C', written in dark ink.

(CARRINGTON)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
21 July 1980

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