

**ACTION**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Weekend Box

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for  
Minister

Prime Minister

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5 February 1980

It seems it is not possible  
to adapt the C.A.P.

CABINET

COPY NO

DEFENCE AND OVERSEA POLICY COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN QUESTIONS

to sub-Committee - no matter  
how hard we try.  
ans.

POSSIBLE MEANS OF REDUCING THE COST OF  
THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Memorandum by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

## CONFIDENTIAL

4. Secondly, effective measures to reduce production would arouse strong political opposition in other member states, to which their governments would on past form be likely to bow.

5. Thirdly, the policy does not inflict damage on other member countries. Indeed for the majority of them it provides positive benefits. Britain alone sustains considerable costs and damage. The resource flows which the CAP produces are set out in the table at Annex II. Four countries - Netherlands, France, Denmark and Ireland - gain substantially from the policy. Belgium/Luxembourg