

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Major Decisions to be taken</u>	<u>Effect of delay on other Member States</u>	<u>Effect on UK Interests</u>
3-4 December <u>FISH COUNCIL</u>	(a) 1980 allowable catches ("tacs") (b) Conservation regime	Annoyance, but probably not much. Expect decisions at this meeting as for (a).	Could undermine UK credibility on fish settlement. More than for (a). Risks spoiling improved atmosphere on fisheries.
	(c) Third Country agreements	Will annoy Germans and French in particular.	Insignificant. But we would lose some fishing rights if we blocked Norway and Faroes arrangements.
4 December <u>ENERGY COUNCIL</u>	(a) EEC position for IEA Ministerial Meeting	Very little	Very little
	(b) Coking coal decision	Would upset Germans.	Nil
	(c) 1980 targets if not fixed by then	Would annoy all Member States and US.	Nil
5 December <u>COREPER</u>	Midwives Directive (on which UK isolated)	Irritation but no great surprise.	Not significant.
6 December <u>TRANSPORT COUNCIL</u>	(a) Air Transport Air Services Memorandum	-	We stand to benefit but no harm from delay.
	(b) Aircraft noise	-	Little harm from delay
	(c) Road transport quotas	Very little	We want quota extension.
	(d) Commission statement on infrastructure	-	We stand to gain in longer term; no harm from delay.

/10-11 December

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10-11 December <u>AGRICULTURE</u> COUNCIL	(a) Agricultural structures	Italians and Irish annoyed.	Benefit to UK (saving £68 million less £10 million for project in Scotland).
	(b) New Zealand Butter (post-1980 access)	France would welcome delay. We would alienate Commission who support UK.	Delay unwelcome to UK and New Zealand.
	(c) <u>Potatoes</u>	-	Delay damaging to UK. We need a satisfactory regime.
	(d) Commission proposals on <u>agricultural expenditure</u>	All net beneficiaries from CAP (Denmark, Ireland, Benelux, etc) would welcome delay.	Some delay acceptable.
	(e) <u>Wine</u>	France and Italians would lose some aids if delayed. But pressure would be off them to reduce surpluses.	-
	(f) <u>Sheepmeat</u>	Would encourage French to continue ban.	-
	(g) Alcohol regime	Little effect.	Would delay potential refund of £21 million for UK whisky distillers.
17 December <u>ENVIRONMENTAL</u> COUNCIL	(a) <u>Health protection standards</u> (sulphur and lead in the air).	Not significant.	Not significant. (We already have a reserve).
	(b) Protection of <u>whales</u>	Not significant.	Disappointing. It is a UK initiative.
	(c) <u>Chlorofluorocarbons</u>	Not significant.	Not significant.

/17 December

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17 December <u>FINANCE</u> COUNCIL	<u>1980 Budget:</u> Could be matters arising from Parliament's 2nd reading and adoption of budget (e.g. application of maximum rate) which would have bearing on whether Council considered 1980 budget to be legally adopted.	Delay difficult - budgetary matters usually decided by qualified majority. Effect not great, and same for all. If budget declared illegally adopted, Community would operate on "twelfths rule".	-
18 December <u>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</u> COUNCIL	(a) <u>Staffing and pay</u>	Other Member States would probably secretly welcome tough UK line on substance. But UK block could cause a strike which would not be welcome.	Community staff would resent UK block.
	(b) <u>Renewal of steel anti-crisis measures (which expire 31.12.79).</u>	Would be popular with Germans, would be disliked by others, especially Italians and Commission.	Could cause damage to UK industry during critical phase of restructuring.
	(c) <u>EEC-ASEAN agreement</u>	French wish to block.	UK support agreement, but no adverse effect.
	(d) <u>Shipbuilding Scrap and build</u>	Italians alone would be concerned. Little prospect anyway of agreement.	
	(e) <u>US synthetic textiles</u>	Small	UK initiative would prevent action being taken to protect UK industry.
20 December <u>RESEARCH</u> COUNCIL	(a) <u>"Super-Sara"</u> nuclear safety project.	Italians would be upset. JRC would continue. Other Member States little concerned.	Minimal
	(b) <u>Inertial confinement fusion</u>	"	"
	(c) <u>Radiation protection.</u>	"	"

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14-15 January <u>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</u> COUNCIL	(a) <u>Supplementary coal and steel revenue?</u> (b) <u>Extension of social security regulations to self- and non-employed?</u>	All steel and coal producing Member States want agreement. Minimal. Danes already blocking.	- UK initiative. But minimal effect of delay.
21-22 January <u>AGRICULTURE</u> COUNCIL	<u>Price-fixing proposals 1980/1 likely to be put forward by Commission.</u>	Too early to block. decisions not expected.	
11-12 February	<u>Price-fixing proposals discussed.</u>	Negative attitude by UK would begin to annoy.	
March <u>EUROPEAN COUNCIL</u>	(a) <u>3 Wise Men Report</u> (b) <u>New Commission President</u>	Irritation. Would probably not cause concern until May.	Not significant but possible loss of influence on subsequent decisions. In absence of agreement, Mr Jenkins might stay on into 1981.
3-4 March <u>AGRICULTURE</u> COUNCIL	<u>Price-fixing</u>		
6 May <u>TRANSPORT</u> COUNCIL	<u>Harmonisation of summer time dates?</u>	Minimal	Could weaken our chances of getting other Member States to come towards our dates.
3 June <u>SOCIAL AFFAIRS</u> COUNCIL	[Depending on outcome of Dublin summit and ETUC reaction] Further measures to <u>alleviate unemployment</u> (worksharing etc)	Belgium, and to a lesser extent other Member States will be anxious to reach satisfactory conclusion: Germans will be least concerned (sceptical about costs to industry	We do not wish to cause a split with unions, but do wish to avoid binding commitments in this area.

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June <u>AGRICULTURE</u> COUNCIL	<u>Price-fixing</u>	UK obstruction would probably cause heated battle by that date.	
July <u>BUDGET</u> COUNCIL	Establishment of <u>1981 draft budget</u>	If others accepted that Luxembourg compromise could be used to block establishment this would prevent adoption of any budget for 1981. "Twelfths Rule" would operate from February 1981. Major irritant to partners, but about equal misery to all: theoretically those with greater receipts from CAP would be worse hit but would take time for this stage to be reached.	