

CONFIDENTIAL



file JH
10 CCPC

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

BONN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

The Prime Minister has considered your minute of 8 March in which you put the case for the Technical Study Group on environmental matters to continue.

The Prime Minister remains of the view that it is not appropriate to set up continuing groups in the Economic Summit framework. There are already plenty of international bodies in which continuing work can be pursued. In this particular instance she is reluctantly prepared to agree that the Study Group might remain in existence for the remainder of 1985 but no longer.

C D POWELL

12 March 1985

CST

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MR POWELL

Prime Minister. ^{ccpc}
Policy on a new GATT round is wrong & will need to be corrected.
Agree to X (although it is not consistent with your wish to abolish all

Bonn Economic Summit

Thank you for your minute of 25 February. As to what was said by the British representatives at the meeting in Berlin about the launching of a new trade round, I can assure the Prime Minister that it was in line with the briefing with which they were provided. Policy on this is currently under review, and a submission will be made to the Prime Minister as to the line that should be taken in future discussions on this subject.

Working Groups?
CDP
8/3

2. We shall work for the termination of the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment (TGE), in accordance with the Prime Minister's wishes. I should, however, like to ask her to reconsider her position on the proposal for a further study group on environmental matters. I am afraid that what was said in paragraph 10 of my note of 22 February was ambiguous. I talked about a study group on environmental measures. What is proposed is in fact a technical study group to try to find a basis on which to rationalise international measurement of environmental factors, such as acidity. International discussion is at present made more difficult and confused than it need be because of the lack of common ground on measurement. What is now proposed is a study to see whether more common ground can be established. This would be modest but useful ground-laying, and both Sir Robin Nicholson and I, and the Department of the Environment, hope that the Prime Minister will agree that this proposal, which in fact originated from the United Kingdom, can continue to have United Kingdom support.

X |

Surely this is not really the forum to discuss

RA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

8 March 1985 controversial groups

We already have EEC, OECD and ILO. A group for one year may be all right but not to continue. not



Econ PA PT18

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