



SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AL

7 May 1986

Dear Geoffrey,

attached

Michael Jopling wrote to you on 2 May proposing that we mount a challenge in the European Court of Justice to the recent directive on the welfare of battery hens.

The counter arguments to a challenge which Michael outlines in paragraph 6 of his letter are, I agree, real but in my view these are outweighed by the fundamental issue of legal propriety which he explains. I am therefore content for us to proceed as he proposes.

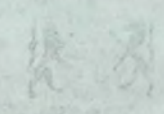
I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, to Michael Jopling and to the other recipients of his letter.

*Yours ever,
Malcolm*

MALCOLM RIFKIND

Home Affairs, Annual Warrant: June 79

POSTAL OFFICE
UNITED KINGDOM



The British Air Services House
Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London W1A 0AA
ENGLAND

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MAJ. COLM RYLAND

11/12/1988