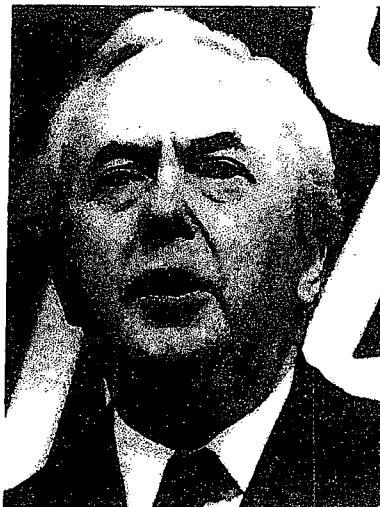


(b)(3)

(James) Harold WILSON

UNITED KINGDOM

Prime Minister

Addressed as:
Mr. Prime Minister

Upon taking office as Prime Minister in March 1974, Labor Party leader Harold Wilson, 58, became head of the first minority Cabinet in 45 years. He has chosen a moderate Cabinet and has presented a domestic legislative program that he feels will receive opposition support. He apparently intends to defer more radical measures, e.g., nationalization, until he feels ready to stand the test of another general election.

Wilson favors the "renegotiation" of Britain's EC entry terms. He has pledged to cut defense spending but has made clear his firm support of the Atlantic Alliance. Wilson, who met with President Nixon at the White House in 1970, will probably continue close Anglo-US relations.

A political pragmatist, Wilson has demonstrated great skill in uniting the diverse elements of his party. His deftness in parliamentary maneuvering and persuasion

Despite his 29 years in Parliament, Wilson has never been a popular leader. His brilliant mind, political acumen and phenomenal debating skill and wit are offset, in the eyes of his critics, by a record of opportunism, deviousness and shifting loyalties.

A man of simple tastes and habits, Wilson shuns ordinary social life. He apparently has no close political "cronies." Apart from his family and politics, reading and golf are his chief interests. Married, he has two sons.

19 March 1974

(b)(1)
(b)(6)

(b)(3)