

PREM 19/3213

SECRET

MT

Confidential filing

The resignation of the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher

PRIME  
MINISTER

November 1990

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
<del>22.11.90</del>							
<del>24.11.90</del>							
<del>26.11.90</del>							
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<del>29.11.90</del>							
<del>5.12.90</del>							
11.11.91							

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PREM 19/3213

The Rt. Hon. John Wakeham, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

1. ~~GOD~~  
2. Back to me AS  
12/4  
File

Sir Robin Butler KCB CVO  
Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2AS

11 November 1991

*Dear Robin*

I have now had the opportunity of reading Alan Watkins' book, which is due to be serialised in the Observer from next Sunday. Although it is pretty nasty, it does not contain any substantial facts. I enclose a summary of the more vicious points.

I do not propose to make any public comment; but as I shall be in the Far East from Friday I have left with Andrew Mitchell, my PPS, the attached note which he can quote from to enquiring journalists.

I am sending a copy of this to Richard Ryder and to Andrew Turnbull.

*John*  
*Wakeham*

JOHN WAKEHAM

John Wakeham read Alan Watkins' book before he left for a Government visit overseas.

Alan Watkins is a socialist commentator of a Welsh, romantic disposition and it is no surprise that he has written a tendentious and inaccurate report of events about which he has only a partial understanding.

On essential facts, such as the substance of the casual encounter John Wakeham had with John Gummer and Ken Clarke, Watkins is plainly wrong; and on others he has made points which contradict themselves. For example, on page 5 Watkins asserts that before the first ballot John Wakeham "suspected she [Mrs Thatcher] would fail to win"; and yet on page 191 he "expected Mrs Thatcher to win outright and composed an uplifting message on Party unity for her".

In view of his strong support for Mrs Thatcher over many years he does not feel any need to make any further comment.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Chapter 1      The Fall of a Prime Minister

a)      Down the steps

- Mrs Thatcher's statement on the steps of our Embassy in Paris had been "thought about carefully" by J.W. and others before Mrs Thatcher's departure from Paris (p4).
- J.W. "later observed laconically: 'She picked up the right piece of paper'" (p4).

b)      The initial plot

- Early on the day of the result, JW met Ken Clarke and John Gummer in Mr Gummer's office in the House and agreed that Mrs Thatcher, in the words of one of the participants, "was not going to make it" (p4). They further agreed that she could not proceed to the second ballot without splitting the Party.
- According to Watkins, J.W. was Mrs Thatcher's "best friend in the Cabinet", following the departure of Norman Tebbit and Nick Ridley.\* He was the one who exercised the greatest influence in the crucial 39 hours, even if Heseltine, Lawson and Howe had been responsible for bringing Mrs Thatcher to her "current condition" (p4).
- After deciding with Messrs Clarke and Gummer that "she would in the interests of the Party have to be persuaded to go quietly" - preferably by Denis and Carol Thatcher - Watkins poses the question of why J.W. drafted such a strong declaration for Mrs Thatcher to make in Paris, rather than the more conciliatory one favoured by Ken Baker making reference merely to "consultations" (p5).
- Based on J.W's subsequent comments to Jim Naughtie that any other statement would have "allowed the rats to get in", Watkins claims that J.W's aim was to "secure Mrs Thatcher's return from Paris with her dignity unimpaired. The Thatcher family and the men in suits could then set to work without the necessity of her seeing colleagues" (p5).

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\* Page 5 carries a potted biography, describing J.W. as "never one of us - a left-of-centre, consensus Conservative".

- The second question that Watkins asks is why J.W., holding such views, agreed to become Mrs Thatcher's Campaign Manager. He argues that J.W. gives two reasons - the first that he was not formally approached, and the second that he "told somebody else that he had been asked to do it from Paris" (p6).

c) The Garel-Jones meeting

- With Mrs Thatcher still in Paris, Ken Clarke was giving robust defences of Mrs Thatcher on television, pursuing the plan agreed with J.W. to get her back from Paris "with dignity" (p7).

d) Mr MacGregor does a survey

- On the Wednesday morning, J.W. was busy with electricity privatisation and asked John MacGregor to undertake a survey of the Cabinet's opinions. J.W. would clearly have performed this task if he had not been occupied with other matters (p12).
- What is not clear is whether J.W. had asked John MacGregor to carry out a survey acting as Mrs Thatcher's Campaign Manager or "as the impresario of her fall" (p12).
- In his survey of the Cabinet, John MacGregor includes J.W. as one of the Prime Minister's supporters - but the total was still 12-7 against.

e) The Grey Beards' failure

- J.W. meets Mrs Thatcher in the Cabinet Room - along with Messrs Renton, Onslow, MacGregor, Tebbit, Baker and Moore - on her return from Paris (p14).
- John MacGregor tells J.W. about the results of his survey - the origin of "the parade of the Cabinet Ministers on the Wednesday evening" (p15).
- J.W. asks Messrs Ryder and Garel-Jones to help Mrs Thatcher's campaign but they refuse (p15).
- J.W. urges Ministers to tell the Prime Minister themselves if they think she ought to stand down (p15).

f) The fatal procession

- Watkins puts forward two theories as to why J.W. initiated the procession. The first was, in Peter Morrison's words, to "gee-up" Ministers: the second, according to a journalist who interviewed J.W. shortly afterwards, is that J.W. had "already concluded ... that she was dead. The Cabinet wheeze was a contraption to deliver the fatal message" (p16).
- Mrs Thatcher tells J.W. that she hasn't got time to see the Cabinet - but is persuaded to do so after her audience with the Queen (p16).
- Cabinet Ministers are summoned by J.W. to the Commons from 6 o'clock onwards for five minute interviews. J.W. urges them to be completely frank but to "avoid unnecessary brutality" (p17).
- J.W. stands outside Mrs Thatcher's office with Andrew Turnbull, while the meetings are in progress (p18).
- J.W. urges Chris Patten to be "frank but sensitive" (p19).
- J.W. maintains on "The World this Weekend" that Cabinet Ministers were well qualified to answer the question as to whether Mrs Thatcher should continue because they were "parliamentary animals" (p20).

g) The drafting of Mr Hurd and Mr Major

- J.W. argues against a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday night, advocating leaving it until Thursday morning (p21).
- Messrs Patten and Clarke tell J.W. and Alistair Goodlad that they will resign if Mrs Thatcher continues (p21).
- J.W. tells Ken Clarke at 11 pm that Mrs Thatcher is going to sleep on her decision to stand down (p22).

h) Tears in the Cabinet

- J.W. was in tears in Cabinet, along with Tony Newton and David Waddington. Cecil Parkinson wonders why J.W. should be crying when he had precipitated Mrs Thatcher's fall (p25).
- When asked about her mood after the announcement of her resignation, J.W. says "she's sad, of course, she's sad" (p26).

## Chapter 6    The Last Phase

- J.W. describes Michael Heseltine's letter to his Constituency Chairman as "an egotistical outburst" (p149).

## Chapter 8    The Triumph of Mr Major

- J.W. expresses doubts about Mrs Thatcher's views on a Referendum over a Single Currency (pp185-6).
- J.W. meets on Tuesday 20 November with Messrs Baker, Younger, Neale and Onslow to draft a statement for Mrs Thatcher following the outright win they expected (p191).
- Watkins claims that all those at the front of Mr Major's campaign - "above all Mr Wakeham" - were the same Ministers "who had crushed the Prime Minister's spirit only 24 hours previously" (p204).
- J.W. tells Alan Watkins that "she will to her dying day think it was a plot" (p213).



Prime Minister

Mrs Thatcher rang Andrew Turnbull to confirm that she will definitely not be standing for Parliament again. This will be announced at 11-11.30 UK time ie 12-12.30 Luxembourg time. You are bound to be asked for a comment and I am sure it would be right for you to offer your thoughts on what will be regarded as a very important announcement. I suggest something like the following:

Mrs Thatcher's departure will be a sad loss to the Commons but I am sure it will not be the end to her contribution to political life <sup>either</sup> both at home <sup>or</sup> and internationally. She has achieved a great deal in her 32 years in Parliament. And for all but 2 of those years she was a Minister either in Government or on the Front Bench in Opposition. ~~I am sure~~ <sup>no doubt</sup> she will go down in history as one of the great Prime Ministers. <sup>The H. of Commons will be the poorer for her absence.</sup>

Q: Will she be going to the Lords?

A: It is difficult to think of anyone who could make a greater contribution to the Lords. But of course this will not arise until the end of this Parliament.

Andrew has now heard <sup>1</sup> that the announcement will be made by 1045 <sup>Lords</sup> time (1145 here). Mrs T. will give interviews. He has also intention to talk about Slovenia. Andrew was simply worried that she might say something. I don't think it matters: it will be covered by the main news item. Stephen

Top on Sov Union: Relg.

r 17/12



ПОСОЛЬСТВО  
СОЮЗА СОВЕТСКИХ  
СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКИХ РЕСПУБЛИК

CM

17/12

Mr. Charles Powell  
10 Downing Street

17 December 1990

Dear Charles,

As promised I am sending you the originals  
of Mr. Gorbachev's letters to Mrs. Thatcher and Mr.  
John Major.

filed 22/11/92

↑filed on Sov Union Relg.

Yours sincerely,

N. Kossov



noted.  
b.f. for box on  
22/1.  
S 7/12

## CABINET OFFICE

70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS Telephone 071-270 0101

*From the Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service*  
Sir Robin Butler KCB CVO

Ref. A090/2980

7 December 1990

*Dear Ms Rowe*

### Reception for Cabinet Presentation to Mrs Thatcher

I have now spoken to Private Secretaries to all members of the former Cabinet about the date for the presentation to Mrs Thatcher. I am writing to confirm that the reception will take place from 6.00 pm on Wednesday 23 January 1991 in the Lord Chancellor's Residence, House of Lords. The presentation itself will be made at 6.30 pm.

I am copying this letter to Private Secretaries to all members of the former Cabinet.

*yours sincerely*  
*M Sweet*

(M J Sweet)  
Assistant Private Secretary

Ms Jenny Rowe  
PS/Lord Chancellor



HR

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

5 December 1990

I enclose a draft reply from  
Mrs. Thatcher to the Fiji Prime Minister.

CHARLES POWELL

Mrs. Amanda Ponsonby

PERSONAL



*Rice* *MS*  
*c'. Ponsonby*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

4 December 1990

General Powell, who came in this morning, made a point of taking me aside to say how disappointed he had been not be able to see Mrs Thatcher during his visit to Britain. He had been looking forward to a meeting for months. He asked me to pass on to her his warmest regards, together with best wishes and respect of the American Armed Forces as a whole for whom she was a hero.

Charles Powell

Mrs Amanda Ponsonby.

PERSONAL

*KW*



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

4 December 1990

I enclose draft replies to messages from:

Secretary Baker ("Dear Jim");

Prime Minister Rocard ("Dear Prime Minister"); and

Mr. Papandreou ("Dear Mr. Papandreou")

If you return them to me, I will arrange for their despatch.

I am enclosing in the same envelope the original of the message from the Polish Prime Minister to which Mrs. Thatcher has already replied: and a letter from our High Commissioner in Singapore, covering a very complimentary editorial from the Straits Times. I have written to thank our High Commission for this.

CHARLES POWELL

Mrs. Amanda Ponsonby



FILE KK

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

4 December 1990

I attach two more messages for  
Mrs. Thatcher:

- from the NATO Secretary-General. I am  
afraid that page 3 is missing and all  
attempts to find it have so far failed. I  
can only apologise on behalf of No. 10. I  
enclose a draft reply.

- from King Hassan of Morocco (the  
original will follow). Again I enclose a  
draft reply.

If you would like to return the replies  
to me, I will arrange for their delivery.

(C. D. POWELL)

Mrs. Amanda Ponsonby

DRAFT REPLY FROM MRS. THATCHER TO DR. MANFRED WOERNER, NATO  
SECRETARY GENERAL

Thank you very much for your very kind letter from Budapest. Support for NATO and its purposes is for me absolutely fundamental. No international organisation has played a more effective and successful role: and while there will have to be changes in future, I firmly believe that we must maintain the basic structure, as the means to bind the United States to the defence of Europe. Much of NATO's success in recent years is owed to the strong lead which you have given as Secretary General and we all have cause to be very grateful for that. I look back on our work together with great pleasure and satisfaction at a job well done.

With warm good wishes.

c:\foreign\woerner (kk)





LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL  
SECRETARY GENERAL

BOULEVARD LÉOPOLD III  
1110 - BRUXELLES  
TÉL. 728.41.11 - 728.49.17

Budapest, 22. 11. 90

Dear Prime Minister,

It is with the greatest sadness that I received the news of your resignation here in Budapest where I am delivering the message of our handshake summit to the Hungarian people.

This is an immense loss for our alliance.

You have been one of the dominant personalities and staunchest supporters



LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL  
SECRETARY GENERAL

BOULEVARD LÉOPOLD III  
1110 - BRUXELLES  
TÉL. 728.41.11 - 728.49.17

-2-

of the Alliance. I admired and continue to  
admire your admirable performance in building  
and maintaining a meaningful transatlantic  
relationship. We have achieved a lot during  
the last years. Your contribution was  
crucial. No success would not have been  
possible without you. Your vision, courage  
and steadfastness - especially in critical  
phases of history - gave an encouraging example

DRAFT REPLY FROM MRS. THATCHER TO KING HASSAN OF MOROCCO

I have been fortunate to receive many messages over the past two weeks from Heads of State and Government in many different parts of the world. None has given me greater pleasure than Your Majesty's letter, for its eloquence, generosity and warmth. I value it most of all because it comes from a leader for whose wisdom I have the highest respect, and whose friendship and kindness will be one of the lasting memories of my time as Prime Minister. I recall in particular our talks at the time of Your Majesty's very successful State Visit and again during my own visit to Morocco: talks which unveiled for me the history and underlying currents of Middle Eastern problems as never before.

May I also make special mention of the visit to Britain of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince. His grace and bearing won him very many friends in our country.

It is inevitably a sad moment when one relinquishes high responsibility. But I do so secure in the knowledge that Your Majesty's wisdom and guidance will continue to play a vital part in the affairs not only of the Maghrab and Middle Eastern region, but more widely as well.

My husband joins me in sending Your Majesty our warm and respectful regards.

CONFIDENTIAL  
FM RABAT  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELNO 365  
OF 030926Z DECEMBER 90

MIPT  
MESSAGE FROM KING HASSAN TO MRS THATCHER

1. FOLLOWING IS TH TEXT OF THE MESSAGE OF THE KING TO MRS THATCHER.

BEGINS

MRS PRIME MINISTER AND DEAR FRIEND,

AS YOU HAVE TAKEN THE DECISION TO LEAVE YOUR HIGH DUTIES, BEING DRIVEN IN THIS BY THE SUPREME INTEREST OF YOUR COUNTRY, WE ARE ANXIOUS TO JOIN THE HOST OF ALL THOSE WHO, WHETHER THEY BE FRIENDS OR ADVERSARIES, ARE GETTING TOGETHER TO RENDER YOU AN ULTIMATE HOMAGE.

THIS HOMAGE IS, TO BEGIN WITH, RENDERED TO THE FIRST WOMAN EVER TO BE PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

IT IS EQUALLY RENDERED TO THE EXEMPLARY COURAGE MANIFESTED BY YOU UPON ENTERING ON STAGE AND LEAVING IT.

IT IS LASTLY RENDERED TO THE LADY WHO KNEW HOW TO CURE THE BRITISH NATION OF THE ILLS AFFECTING HER AND TO KINDLE WITHIN HER ONCE AGAIN THE HISTORICAL SENSE OF GRANDEUR.

WE WHO VALUE ALL OF THESE GREAT VIRTUES WISH TO TELL YOU PARTICULARLY HOW MUCH WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO APPRECIATE RIGHTLY YOUR SENSE OF FRIENDSHIP AND LOYALTY. THESE, YOU MAY REST ASSURED, WERE AND SHALL REMAIN MUTUAL.

WILL YOU KINDLY ACCEPT, MRS PRIME MINISTER AND DEAR FRIEND, THE EXPRESSION OF OUR HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

.

(SIGNED) YOUR LOYAL FRIEND  
HASSAN II



MT

c. Cabinet

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

CABINET PRESENTATION TO MRS THATCHER

The Prime Minister was content with the suggestion that Mrs Thatcher should be presented with a pair of silver candlesticks and that this should be done at an occasion in the Lord Chancellor's lodgings. I have spoken to Amanda Ponsonby in Mrs Thatcher's office and she thinks this would be acceptable to Mrs Thatcher too. Could your office now liaise with Amanda.

Andrew Turnbull

3 December 1990

6



FILE KIC

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

3 December 1990

I enclose letters to Mrs. Thatcher from the Israeli Prime Minister and from the former Israeli Ambassador, Mr. Avner, together with draft replies, in the hope they are useful.

(C. D. POWELL)

Mrs. Amanda Ponsonby

20

DRAFT REPLY FROM MRS. THATCHER TO HIS EXCELLENCY MR. YITZHAK SHAMIR, PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

I was grateful for your very kind letter with its generous words about my time as Prime Minister. It was of particular satisfaction during that time to see relations between Britain and Israel become much warmer, and I have the happiest memories of my visit in 1986. It was also a great joy that we were able to make progress on securing the freedom of Jews to leave the Soviet Union.

I am sorry that we shall not be able to meet during your visit but I send you my best wishes.

The Right Honorable  
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher  
10 Downing Street  
London

ראש הממשלה  
THE PRIME MINISTER

Jerusalem,

November 23, 1990.

39-7(2)

Dear Prime Minister,

I appreciate your message of 22 November informing me of your decision that morning to step down as Prime Minister. We learnt the news with sadness and regret.

During your long term as Prime Minister you emerged as an outstanding and inspiring national leader with great international influence. You earned the respect and admiration not only of your own people, but of many around the world, including the citizens of Israel, who admire your adherence to principle, and your pursuit of your goals with perseverance and tenacity.

Under your leadership Britain's relationship with Israel was improved and strengthened, especially in the growing trade between the two countries. We recall with pleasure the visit you paid to us during your term of office.

I appreciate the cordial personal relationship and cooperation between us during your Premiership.

I extend to you and your husband my wife's and my best wishes for good health, happiness and success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

  
Yitzhak Shamir

The Right Honorable  
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London



DRAFT LETTER FROM MRS. THATCHER TO MR. YEHUDA AVNER

It was so kind of you to write and very good to hear from you. We look back on your time as Ambassador here as a period of great progress in Britain's relations with Israel and I shall always remember my visit there in 1986, in which you played such a very helpful part. I shall continue to follow all that happens in Israel and in the region with the greatest interest, and try to make a contribution to moving matters forward. And I still have many invitations to Israel which I should like to take up now that I have more time. So perhaps we shall have the chance to meet again. Meanwhile I send you my warm good wishes.

יהודה אבנר

Yehuda Avner

13 Diskin St

Jerusalem

Israel

23.11.90

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

I write to extend

to you and to Mr. Thatcher my  
sincere best wishes at this time  
of decision as you step down from  
high office. As Israel's ambassador to  
London until a few years ago I  
had the privilege of knowing you  
and it is an acquaintance I shall  
forever cherish. Your fans in Israel are

numerous for you are admired as a  
leader of people and as a true friend.

God speed to you and to your  
dear husband as you build your  
new future together. May it always  
be one of health and happiness.

Respectfully,  
Selma Arnes



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

30 November 1990

Thanks for sending me the message to the  
Prime Minister from President Kaunda. I  
enclose a draft reply.

Charles Powell

Mrs Amanda Ponsonby

DRAFT LETTER TO H.E. DR. KENNETH DAVID KAUNDA FROM MRS THATCHER

I was very touched by your extremely generous message, which was so typical of you. I know we have had our differences, but I have always enormously respected your sincerity and dedication to the best interests of your people. It seems a long time since we sat down together in Lusaka in 1979 and set in train the process which brought Zimbabwe to independence. But a great deal has been achieved since then, both in Southern Africa and the wider world. And I think we can both look back with satisfaction on the changes and the even greater hopes for the future.

I very much hope we shall have other opportunities to meet. In the meantime, Denis joins me in sending warmest good wishes to someone who has always been a good and true friend.

c: Kaunda (MJ)

THE RT. HON. MARGARET THATCHER, F.R.S., M.P.

R 30/11



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

30th November 1990

Dear Charles

As requested I enclose the letter we discussed this morning.

I would be very grateful for a draft reply.

Clare Lawther  
pp AMANDA PONSONBY

Charles Powell Esq



*State House  
Lusaka, Republic of Zambia*

29th November, 1990.

*My Dear Margaret,*

As you leave 10 Downing Street, I want you to know that the fact that we have differed over many issues involving the possible solutions to the problems of Southern Africa does not in any way detract from the fact that you have provided for this world a formidable type of leadership, clear in your own thoughts, words and deeds even where these isolated you from the rest in any given situation. It must be admitted, at least I think so, that this world needs more and more of this type of leadership.

History can never forget, nor indeed ignore, the fact that you were the first Western leader to identify the super qualities of leadership in one called Mikhail Gorbachev. Nor can we forget, let alone ignore, your contribution to the breaking down of the extremely dangerous ideological wall that separated the East from the West.

Yes, for us in Southern Africa, we shall always remember that you came to Lusaka in 1979 determined to recognise Zimbabwe/Rhodesia as an independent state, but you listened to reason and here again you took decisions that moulded the beginnings of an independent Zimbabwe. In this outmoded so-called man's world, it required a mother to put an end to the carnage that led to the destruction of more than 45,000 lives. We cannot forget, nor can we thank you sufficiently, for this.

/...

Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,  
House of Commons,  
LONDON S.W.1.



2.

Even in situations where we differed vehemently over policies in Southern Africa, I remained your open admirer. In retirement from that office you will continue to command my open love, respect and admiration which I extend to your dear husband who has stood behind you in all situations. He, too, deserves our thanks.

I wish you God's guidance as you prepare for a new and quieter life.

*Yours ever,*

*Kenneth*

Kenneth D. Kaunda  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



Ref. A090/2874

PRIME MINISTER

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*Prime Minister  
Content?*

*Content -  
but ask Mr. T. informally if she is.  
29/11  
A 2.12*

Cabinet Presentation to Mrs Thatcher

As you will know, Mr Baker made a collection among members of the former Cabinet for a presentation to Mrs Thatcher. He has bought a pair of silver candlesticks.

2. The question is: on what occasion should these be presented. At the suggestion of the Lord Chancellor, Mr Baker has suggested that the Lord Chancellor might arrange an occasion in his lodgings for members of the former Cabinet at which the presentation would be made to Mrs Thatcher. This would be both less painful for her and also attract less publicity than a event for this purpose in No 10.

3. Would you be content with this? If so, I will try to arrange a date which everyone can manage.

*R.B.*

ROBIN BUTLER

29 November 1990



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

*AM*

29 November 1990

*Dear Joy*

Top Copy of a Message to Mrs Thatcher from the  
Polish Prime Minister

Soon after her decision to step down, Mrs Thatcher was sent a message from Mr Mazowiecki, to which she replied. The Embassy in Warsaw have now sent us the top copy of the message, together with a translation. These I enclose.

*Yours ever,*  
*Richard*

(R H T Gozney)  
Private Secretary

Miss Joy Robilliard  
Secretary to  
The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher FRS MP  
House of Commons

bcc: PS/No.10

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Handwritten notes in Arabic and English: "I send letter, with copy of this letter to His Highness the Ruler of Dubai for his consideration." and "ديوان سمو الحاكم - حكومة دبي".

GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI.

H. H. THE RULER'S COURT

Date : 28th November, 1990

التاريخ :

Ref. : Diwan/90/Embassy/SR/sm

الرجوع :

H.E. Robert Hendrie  
Consul General  
British Consulate  
Dubai

Your Excellency,

Greetings.

I have the honour to deliver to Your Excellency for onward transmission the enclosed letter in a separate envelope from His Highness Shaikh Maktoum Bin Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, The Ruler of Dubai, thanking The Right Honourable Mrs. Margaret Thatcher MP, for the letter dated 22nd November, 1990, formally informing about her decision to resign as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

With assurances of my highest considerations, I remain.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kamal Hamza and a circular official stamp of the Government of Dubai, H.H. The Ruler's Court.

KAMAL HAMZA  
DIRECTOR  
H.H. THE RULER'S COURT

Encl: As above

EMBASSY OF  
THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

LONDON

سفارة  
المملكة المغربية

لندن

000770

London, 28 November 1990

EM

2587 Ki

Mr. Charles Powell  
11 Roland Way  
London SW7

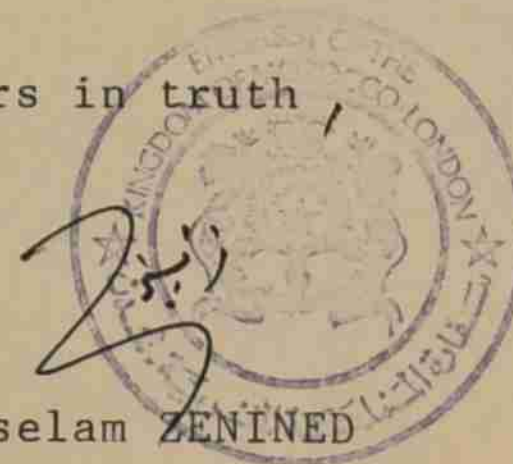
Dear Charles,

By now, you may have heard of the message His Majesty King Hassan II asked H.E. Mr. John Macrae, the British Ambassador in Morocco, on 27th November 1990 to convey to Mrs. Thatcher. His Majesty's words are a sound indication of the affection and respect which Mrs Thatcher enjoys in Morocco. She will be remembered as a towering United-Kingdom Prime Minister of 20th century.

In so far as we are concerned, under her tenure, our bilateral relations have witnessed a great leap forward. Visits have been exchanged at the highest level thus giving new momentum to economic, cultural and political ties between our two Kingdoms. Therefore, I should be grateful if you would kindly extend to Mrs Thatcher our ever-lasting gratitude for all she has done for our bilateral relations.

My wife and I shall always cherish the memory of the dinner she kindly accepted to have with us in April 1989. Please convey to the Thatchers our best wishes of good health and long life.

Yours in truth



Abdesselam ZENINED



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you very much for your kind and thoughtful letter of 27 November. I know from our meetings in the past that we share many of the same views and I am delighted that you will be taking up the battle for our ideas just as I am giving up office. I wish you every success.

I think it would probably be better not to try to meet during your visit next week, but I would of course be happy to see you on a future visit. I note that your High Commissioner will be contacting the No.10 office to discuss a meeting with my successor.

Yours sincerely

Jayaram Malhotra

The Honourable Jim Bolger, M.P.

ea



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Jean M. President,

Thank you for your kind message. I was touched and heartened by your generous words. I remember our meeting here at No.10 very well: and I congratulate you on the vigour and courage with which you are tackling the great problems which confront your country. You carry the hopes and good wishes of every one of us - and I am sure my successor will be no less ready to provide every possible help and support.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Raymond Dalrymple

His Excellency Dr. Cesar Gaviria Trujillo

285



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your kind letter. It was good of you to write and much appreciated. I believe that relations have become better over recent years and I would wish that to continue.

May I take the opportunity to wish you success in the great tasks which face you.

Yours sincerely

Rajamohanlal

Shri Chandra Shekhar

JCS.



KK

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Mr. Adye.

Thank you so much for your letter. It was kind of you to write. I have always been aware of the immense contribution which GCHQ makes and the extraordinary dedication of its staff. I should be grateful if you would convey my gratitude to all of them.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Raymond Dalitz

J. A. Adye, Esq.

dh





10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Mme Van Hoof-Haferkamp

I am most grateful to you and M. Fleming for your charming letter, and for all the marvellous help which you have given me over the years. Whatever else may happen, I think European Councils will be a little less lively and a little less interesting! I shall miss them.

Please convey my gratitude to all the members of the Commission's interpreting services.

Kind regards  
to you and Mr. Fleming.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Mme. Renée van Hoof-Haferkamp

BTG



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your kind letter of good wishes. I have very much enjoyed our time working together and in particular the visit which I paid to Luxembourg in 1989. You will face a very demanding six months as Luxembourg assumes the Presidency of the European Community, but I can think of no one better qualified to take matters forward in a sensible and balanced way.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely

Raymond Maitland

His Excellency Monsieur Jacques Santer

RM



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

Your very kind message touched me greatly. I have very much enjoyed our various meetings and am full of admiration for the skilful leadership which you have given to Japan. I hope that one of the things for which my time as Prime Minister will be remembered is the much closer relations between Britain and Japan and the way we have welcomed Japanese investment in our country. It has been a very successful partnership and one which I hope will continue in the future.

I look forward to further opportunities to meet and talk. Meanwhile I send you my warm good wishes.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Walker

His Excellency Mr. Toshiki Kaifu, K.B.E.

885



*Ce Pen.*

New Zealand High Commission  
London

27 November 1990

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher FRS MP  
Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON

*Dear Prime Minister*

I have just been asked to pass on to you the attached letter from our new Prime Minister, Hon J B Bolger.

*May I add my own thanks, and those of my wife, for all your kindnesses to us over the past five years, and our warm good wishes to you and your husband.*

*Yours sincerely*  
*Bryce Harland*  
(Bryce Harland)



PRIME MINISTER

27 November 1990

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

Dear Mrs Thatcher

As your long and distinguished leadership of Britain draws to a close, I should like to express the appreciation of the New Zealand Government and people for the solid support you have provided us over the years.

Your much appreciated congratulations to me on our recent victory were, I had hoped, the precursor to a close and enduring relationship between us as Prime Ministers. That is not to be but I hope that you will always regard New Zealanders as friends and close contact between us will continue in the years ahead.

There are many things for which we are grateful: your frequent efforts on our behalf with respect to trade access to the Community, and your unceasing fight for a free and fair trading system, are but two. With respect to the latter, I appreciated receiving your message on the GATT negotiations and will do my best to break the log-jam that has occurred there when I attend the Ministerial Meeting in Brussels next week. Your Government represents the high water mark, within the European Community, of member states seeking meaningful and enduring agricultural reform and we are as determined as you to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

I hope to meet your successor in London on my way to the Ministerial Meeting. I have made arrangements to be in London on Tuesday 4 December if this proves convenient. My High Commissioner will contact you closer to the time but if you are free at some stage during that day I should very much appreciate the opportunity to call on you.

Yours sincerely

Jim Bolger

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

RESTRICTED

135225  
MDADAN 6629

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FM BOGOTA  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 596  
OF 271700Z NOVEMBER 90

**ADVANCE COPY**

MESSAGE FOR PRIME MINISTER.

1. PRESIDENT GAVIRIA HAS SENT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE (DATED 26 NOVEMBER) TO THE PRIME MINISTER (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION: ORIGINAL BY BAG TO LAD).

BEGINS...

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN A SECOND BALLOT TO ELECT THE HEAD OF THE BRITISH CONSERVATIVE PARTY, I WOULD LIKE TO TRANSMIT TO YOU THE EXPRESSION OF MY HIGHEST ADMIRATION FOR THE STEPS YOU TOOK IN GUIDING THE DESTINY OF YOUR COUNTRY DURING THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS.

THE VALIDITY OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, THE EFFECT OF THE MARKET ECONOMY, THE ENERGETIC CONVICTION AGAINST TERRORISM AND OTHER VIOLENT MEANS USED TO OBTAIN CHANGE, AND YOUR PRAGMATISM, CONSTITUTED THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF THE MAKE-UP OF YOUR GOVERNMENT. THE DEEP TRANSFORMATIONS WHICH THE WORLD IS LIVING TODAY INDICATE THAT THESE ARE PRECISELY THE PARAMETERS AROUND WHICH A NEW WORLD ORDER IS BEING BUILT. THE WORLD ACKNOWLEDGES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF YOUR LEADERSHIP.

I COULD NOT END THIS MESSAGE WITHOUT RENEWING, ON BEHALF OF THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT AND ITS PEOPLE, OUR MOST SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR GREAT BRITAIN'S QUICK, DECIDED AND EFFICIENT RESPONSE TO OUR CALL FOR SOLIDARITY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING, THE MOST RECENT DECISION BEING THAT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES IN GRANTING A PREFERENTIAL TYPE OF TREATMENT TO COLOMBIAN EXPORT PRODUCTS.

I WOULD LIKE TO AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO YOU THE INVITATION MADE DURING OUR MEETING, TO HONOUR US WITH A VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY.

PAGE 1  
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135225  
MDADAN 29

WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE,

CESAR GAVIRIA TRUJILLO

ENDS.

MORRIS

YYYY

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PS/NO 10.

HD/LAD

NNNN

PAGE 2  
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## PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi  
November 27, 1990

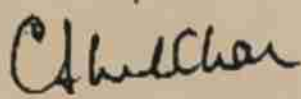
Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

I learnt about your resignation from office as Prime Minister when I was in the Maldives recently for the South Asian regional summit.

As you prepare to relinquish the high office which you held with such distinction for many years, I cannot but reflect on your significant contributions in the national as well as international arena. We in India will remember, with deep appreciation, your personal interest in strengthening and diversifying our bilateral relationship.

I send you my best wishes for your health and happiness and every success in your continued endeavours for the well-being of the British people and for promoting greater international understanding and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

  
[Chandra Shekhar]

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, F.R.S., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Britain  
London





LE PREMIER MINISTRE

November 27th, 1990

*Mrs Margaret Thatcher,*

At the time you have chosen to retire as Prime Minister, I deeply feel obliged to express you my most sincere thanks for all the efforts you never ceased to make in strengthening and consolidating the bi-lateral relations linking both our countries. Personally, I am most grateful.

I have always found in your person a most open and frank interlocutress who has clear and resolute views on the future of her country, Europe and the world. You may be assured that I shall miss you a lot in the future.

I offer you my best wishes for your private prospects. Be assured, should you ever come to Luxembourg, that you shall always be most enthusiastically welcomed in my country.

*With warm regards*

*Jacques Santer*  
 Jacques SANTER

Prime Minister

The Right Hon. Mrs Margaret THATCHER  
 Prime Minister  
 of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain  
 and North Ireland  
 10, Downing Street

GB - LONDON



MINISTÈRE D'ÉTAT

TELEPAX

A/TO/AN

aux mains de : The Right Hon. Mrs Margaret THATCHER, Prime Minister  
to the attention of :  
zu Händen von :

DE LA PART DE : MINISTERE D'ETAT - LUXEMBOURG  
FROM : PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE - LUXEMBOURG  
ABSENDER : AMT DES PREMIERMINISTERS - LUXEMBURG

Nombre de pages : 2 y compris cette page de couverture  
Number of pages : including this cover sheet in  
Seitenzahl : einschliesslich dieses Deckblattes

Date/Datum : 27.11.1990

MESSAGE/MITTEILUNG :

En cas de réception incomplète, veuillez contacter :  
If you do not receive all of this document please notify :  
Im Falle eines unvollständigen Empfanges, bitte kontaktieren Sie:

téléphone: (352) 478 232 resp. (352) 478 223  
téléfax : (352) 461 720  
4, rue de la Congrégation, L - 1352 LUXEMBOURG  
Adresse postale : L - 2910 LUXEMBOURG

*copy  
address*

EMBASSY OF JAPAN  
LONDON

27th November 1990

*C. O. N.  
27/11*

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I am asked to send you, for your information, the two public comments, one issued by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and one by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in Tokyo following your decision to step down as Leader of the Conservative Party.

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith the text of these messages.

*Yours sincerely,  
Kazuo Chiba*

Kazuo Chiba  
Ambassador

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,  
Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury,  
10, Downing Street,  
London.

Public Comment by Mr. Taro Nakayama, Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Japan, on Prime Minister Thatcher's announcement of her resignation  
as Leader of the Conservative Party

Over a long period since May 1979, Prime Minister Thatcher has been active as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and one of the great world leaders and has been a politician to whom the people of Japan feel very close. In the rapidly changing international society of the present time, I feel that the resignation of such an experienced and powerful leader as Prime Minister Thatcher is a great loss to the world.

Prime Minister Thatcher announced that she has decided to resign as Prime Minister to open the way for her colleagues, thus ensuring the unity of the Party and victory in the next General Election. Whilst I feel a renewed sense of admiration at her resolution, it is very regrettable that Prime Minister Thatcher has resigned.

After coming to office, Prime Minister Thatcher visited Japan on four occasions and leaves many achievements in the furtherance of Anglo-Japanese relations. In particular, she has contributed greatly to the broadening of economic relations with Japan and, in close partnership with Japan, has striven tirelessly to strengthen unity between Europe, the United States and Japan.

Japan will maintain a close dialogue with the Government of the United Kingdom under Prime Minister Thatcher's successor and will continue to work to maintain and develop the cordial Anglo-Japanese relations which have been built up under the Thatcher Government./.

Public Comment by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Prime Minister Thatcher's  
announcement of her resignation as Leader of the Conservative Party

Prime Minister Thatcher is a rare leader of firm convictions who has invigorated the United Kingdom and I feel great regret that she has withdrawn from the front line.

Prime Minister Thatcher has worked to create good Anglo-Japanese relations and we have had summit meetings on four occasions, where I always felt very attracted by her strong convictions. At the recent Houston Summit, I well remember with gratitude her understanding of Japan's position and her speech of support. Whoever her successor is, we will continue to work together in the light of the present cordial Anglo-Japanese relations./.



TELEPHONE: 01-839 1244

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NIGERIA

9 NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE  
LONDON WC2N 5BX

*file*  
*27/11*

27 November 1990

Mr C.D. Powell  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
for Overseas Affairs  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

*Dear Mr Powell*

On Saturday I sent the unsigned text of a message from President Babangida to the Prime Minister. I now forward the signed copy which has just reached me and I shall be glad if you will submit it to the Prime Minister.

You must be even busier now than before and when you have settled down again I shall make contact. I much appreciate the help which you always gave to me and I shall look forward to staying in touch in some way or another.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*George Dove-Edwin*

(G. DOVE-EDWIN)  
High Commissioner

*Fl file*

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FM CABINET OFFICE LONDON  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
BT

S E C R E T

MESSAGE FROM CHARLES POWELL, NO.10 DOWNING STREET:  
TO ROBERT GATES, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY FOR  
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS.

+DEAR BOB,

CHARLES HAS SHOWN ME YOUR VERY KIND AND GENEROUS MESSAGE. IT HAS BEEN THE GREATEST IMAGINABLE PRIVILEGE TO HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE UNITED STATES UNDER THREE PRESIDENTS IN SO MANY COMMON CAUSES. I KNOW HOW MUCH YOU PERSONALLY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THOSE YEARS, AND TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE IN THE FORMER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. WE ARE ALL GRATEFUL TO YOU.

WITH WARM REGARDS,

MARGARET THATCHER +  
BT

NNNN

Please pass the following to Robert Gates, Assistant to the President and Deputy for National Security Affairs from Charles Powell, No.10 Downing Street:

"Dear Bob,

Charles has shown me your very kind and generous message. It has been the greatest imaginable privilege to have worked closely with the United States under three Presidents in so many common causes. I know how much you personally have contributed to the achievements of those years, and to the transformation of the political landscape in the former Communist countries. We are all grateful to you.

With warm regards,

Margaret Thatcher"

CB.



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FM WHITE HOUSE  
TO CABINET OFFICE LONDON  
ZEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIA CABINET CHANNELS  
QQQQ

THIS TRANSMISSION IS CLASSIFIED TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF  
PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS. THE TEXT OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE  
IS UNCLASSIFIED.

-  
TO: CHARLES POWELL  
ASSISTANT TO PRIME MINISTER THATCHER  
10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON

-  
FROM: ROBERT M. GATES  
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY FOR NATIONAL  
SECURITY AFFAIRS

-  
BEGIN TEXT:

-  
DEAR CHARLES:

-  
I KNOW BRENT HAS SENT YOU A MESSAGE BUT I JUST WANT TO LET  
YOU KNOW PERSONALLY HOW TERRIBLY SADDENED I AM BY THE TURN OF  
EVENTS IN LONDON. I AM PERHAPS THE ONLY SENIOR OFFICIAL WHO HAS  
BEEN IN OUR GOVERNMENT CONTINUOUSLY (AT CIA AND THE NSC) DURING  
THE ENTIRE TIME MRS. THATCHER HAS BEEN PRIME MINISTER. I CANNOT  
TELL YOU WHAT A GREAT INSPIRATION AND EXAMPLE SHE HAS BEEN. FROM  
PREPARING AND READING CABINET LINE MESSAGES WHEN I WORKED HERE  
FOR ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI TO MY MORE RECENT CALLS ON HER WITH LARRY  
EAGLEBURGER, I HAVE ALWAYS MARVELED AT HER COURAGE,  
STEADFASTNESS AND PRINCIPLED APPROACH TO GOVERNANCE. WHAT A  
REMARKABLE AND TRUE ALLY. WE ALL WISH HER WELL. HER ADMIRERS  
ARE LEGION AND HER PLACE IN HISTORY IS SECURE. AND WORKING WITH  
YOU HAS BEEN AN EXTRAORDINARY PLEASURE AND PRIVILEGE.

-  
WARM REGARDS AND VERY BEST WISHES,

-  
BOB GATES

-  
END TEXT

-  
DECL: OADR

£0095

*Rec'd 27/0154Z*

*G.*

NNNN

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT FROM  
THE PRIME MINISTER:

"Dear Brent

Thank you for your message, one of the nicest which I have ever received. I have an unshakeable faith in the United States, particularly under George Bush's leadership backed up by your wise and calm advice. The achievements of the past two years have been remarkable indeed: and in the testing times which still lie ahead, you can rely on me for full support in whatever way is open to me.

With many thanks for your marvellous help and your friendship,

Warm regards

Margaret".

M.T.

CABWTE002  
O 261722Z NOV 90  
FM CABINET OFFICE LONDON  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
BT  
S E C R E T PERSONAL  
MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER  
TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

+DEAR BRENT,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE, ONE OF THE NICEST WHICH I HAVE EVER RECEIVED. I HAVE AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH IN THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY UNDER GEORGE BUSH'S LEADERSHIP BACKED UP BY YOUR WISE AND CALM ADVICE. THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PAST TWO YEARS HAVE BEEN REMARKABLE INDEED; AND IN THE TESTING TIMES WHICH STILL LIE AHEAD, YOU CAN RELY ON ME FOR FULL SUPPORT IN WHATEVER WAY IS OPEN TO ME.

WITH MANY THANKS FOR YOUR MARVELLOUS HELP AND YOUR FRIENDSHIP,

WARM REGARDS

MARGARET

+  
BT

NNNN

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING STRICTLY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT FROM CHARLES POWELL:

"Dear Brent,

Thank you for your wonderfully kind message. What happened was a devastating blow and a sad commentary on standards of loyalty in politics.

I don't yet know exactly what will happen to me. It will depend partly on who wins on Tuesday or Thursday. But whatever happens, thank you for all the kindness which you have shown me stretching right back to NSC days in the early seventies. It has been a privilege to work with you and to enjoy your friendship: and I think that what we have done together lives up to the best traditions of the Anglo-American relationship.

Could I ask you to convey my warm respects and admiration to the President.

Warm regards,

Charles."

CD

CABWTE001

O 261720Z NOV 90  
FM CABINET OFFICE LONDON  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
BT

S E C R E T STRICTLY PERSONAL  
MESSAGE FROM CHARLES POWELL  
TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

+DEAR BRENT,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WONDERFULLY KIND MESSAGE. WHAT HAPPENED WAS A DEVASTATING BLOW AND A SAD COMMENTARY ON STANDARDS OF LOYALTY IN POLITICS.

I DON'T YET KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME. IT WILL DEPEND PARTLY ON WHO WINS ON TUESDAY OR THURSDAY. BUT WHATEVER HAPPENS, THANK YOU FOR ALL THE KINDNESS WHICH YOU HAVE SHOWN ME STRETCHING RIGHT BACK TO NSC DAYS IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES. IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH YOU AND TO ENJOY YOUR FRIENDSHIP: AND I THINK THAT WHAT WE HAVE DONE TOGETHER LIVES UP TO THE BEST TRADITIONS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP.

COULD I ASK YOU TO CONVEY MY WARM RESPECTS AND ADMIRATION TO THE PRESIDENT.

WARM REGARDS,

CHARLES.

+  
BT

NNNN

## ديوان سمو الحاكم

دبي

وولاية الامارات العربية المتحدة

الرقم ٢٦١ نوفمبر ١٩٩٠

التاريخ 26th November '90

The Right Honourable  
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister of  
The United Kingdom

فخامة السيدة / مارجريت تاتشر  
عضو البرلمان  
رئيسة الوزراء  
المملكة المتحدة

In the name of Allah  
the Compassionate, the Merciful.

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله تعالى وبركاته .

Your Excellency,

Thank you for the message you sent me through your Consul General in Dubai informing formally about your decision to resign the Premiership of the United Kingdom. You are leaving this august office with the widely acclaimed knowledge that you have contributed greatly towards world peace and stability in general and for the Gulf region in particular. Your legacy of courage and fortitude as a leader of one of the major powers in the world will be difficult to match. I note with pleasure that under your leadership over the last eleven years, the bilateral relationship between our two friendly countries have improved from strength to strength in all respects which I hope will continue to flourish in the coming days as well.

With wishes for your long life, well being and happiness and with my highest respect and esteem.

أتوجه بالشكر لسعادتك على رسالتكم ، التي تسلمتها من القنصل البريطاني العام بدبي ، تخبرونا فيها رسميا بقراركم الخاص بالإستقالة من زعامة الحزب ورئاسة الوزارة . إنكم تتركون منصبكم الموقر وأنتم تتمتعون بإدراك وفهم ذائع الصيت برز من خلال إسهامكم العظيم فى نشر السلام والإستقرار فى العالم بوجه عام وفى منطقة الخليج بوجه خاص . إن شجاعتكم وقيادتكم كزعيمة لدولة من الدول العظمى فى العالم لأمر يصعب تكراره . وأود الإشارة هنا ، وبكل السعادة ، إلى تطور العلاقات الثنائية بين بلدينا الصديقين عبر الأحد عشر عاما الماضية خلال فترة رئاستكم للوزارة فى كافة المجالات ، والتي أمل أن يستمر إزدهارها فى الأيام المقبلة .

مع أطيب التمنيات لسعادتك بطول العمر ودوام الصحة والسعادة ، أرجو أن تتقبلوا منا أسمى معانى التقدير والإحترام ،،،

MAKTOUM BIN RASHID  
BIN SAEED AL MAKTOUM  
Vice President,  
Prime Minister of the U.A.E.  
and Ruler of Dubai

مكتوم بن راشد بن سعيد آل مكتوم  
نائب رئيس الدولة  
رئيس مجلس الوزراء ، حاكم دبي

( T E X T )

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TOSHIKI KAIFU

TO THE RT. HON. MARGARET THATCHER, FRS, MP

It was with extreme regret that I received your recent message regarding your decision to step down in order to make way for a successor.

Your premiership of Great Britain has been recorded in history as being the longest this century, as have your many achievements as a world leader.

Your remarkable and historical achievements, together with your contribution to the building of an excellent relationship between Japan and the United Kingdom, have brought you the respect and sympathy of the Japanese people.

I particularly remember the supportive remarks you made on behalf of Japan at the Houston Economic Summit. Your understanding of Japan's position very much endeared you to our people, and this event has often been spoken of with great warmth.

.../...

I am hopeful that you, as a good friend of Japan, will continue to support our efforts to expand the relationship between our two nations in the coming years. As for my part, I am determined to do my utmost to foster our present good relationship and work closely with your successor as Prime Minister.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you good health and every success for the future.

With warmest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Toshiki Kaifu

Prime Minister of Japan

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, FRS, MP

Prime Minister

No. 10 Downing Street

London SW1 2AA

26-11-90





From the Director: J A Adye  
Government Communications Headquarters  
Priors Road Cheltenham GL52 5AJ  
Telephone 0242 (Cheltenham) 221491 ext  
GTN 3073

D/5231DQ/JAA/BB

26 November 1990

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I was due to call to see you early next month for one of your periodic briefings on GCHQ. Sadly that has been overtaken - together with your planned visit to Cheltenham, which we were all looking forward to. The close interest you have taken throughout in the work of GCHQ has been a great encouragement, and a welcome spur to all of us to provide the best in our power. We have known that what we produced would be read with a keen eye, and when appropriate, with stimulating comment. I am most grateful for all you have done to support GCHQ, from your early days as Prime Minister: our ability to provide an effective service to the Government has been immeasurably strengthened.

*Yours sincerely,*

*John Adye*

J A ADYE

UNCLASSIFIED

FM ROME

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 1030

OF 261730Z NOVEMBER 90

INFO ROUTINE OTHER EC POSTS, UKREP BRUSSELS, MILAN, NAPLES

INFO ROUTINE FLORENCE

## PRIME MINISTER'S RESIGNATION: ITALIAN MEDIA REACTIONS

## SUMMARY

1. THE NEWS OF MRS THATCHER'S RESIGNATION DOMINATED THE ITALIAN PRESS ON 23 NOVEMBER. FURTHER EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OVER THE WEEKEND MAINLY CONCENTRATES ON THE CONTEST TO SUCCEED HER. THE GENERAL VIEW IS THAT SHE WAS A GREAT LEADER BROUGHT DOWN BY HER OWN INTRANSIGENCE. SEVERAL PAPERS COMPARE HER WITH QUEEN ELIZABETH I AND QUEEN VICTORIA. POLICY TOWARDS EUROPE, THE POLL TAX AND THE DOMESTIC ECONOMIC SITUATION ARE REGARDED AS HAVING BEEN HER MAIN STUMBLING BLOCKS. MANY COMMENT ON THE ENORMOUS CHANGES SHE WROUGHT IN BRITAIN, ONLY TO SEE THE BENEFITS ERODED AS TIME PASSED. FAVOURABLE COMMENT ATTRIBUTED TO ANDREOTTI AND SPADOLINI. FERVENT HOPES THAT HER SUCCESSOR WILL BE LESS VOCIFEROUSLY OPPOSED TO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. TELEVISION COVERAGE EXTENSIVE BUT MAINLY FACTUAL, AND WILL REVIVE WITH THE BALLOTING TO COME.

2. LA REPUBBLICA'S LEADER (CENTRE-LEFT, NATIONAL) ON 24 NOVEMBER APPLAUDED HER DECISION TO RESIGN (A) AS A GRAND GESTURE, AND (B) BECAUSE SHE WAS THUS REMOVING A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO EUROPEAN UNION, WHICH REMAINS 'UNTHINKABLE' WITHOUT THE UK. MUCH OF EUROPE'S ECONOMIC POLICY HAS BEEN INSPIRED BY HER. REPUBBLICA IS NOT THE ONLY PAPER TO POINT OUT THAT, HAVING RESIGNED, SHE WILL ACTUALLY LEAVE OFFICE: A LESSON WHICH SHOULD BE LEARNED BY ITALIAN POLITICIANS. THE REST OF THE EC WERE TIRED OF HER UNRELENTING INTRANSIGENCE AND SIMPLY IGNORED HER. CORRIERE DELLA SERA (CENTRIST, NATIONAL) CALLS HER THE ONLY LION AMONG A PACK OF WOLVES: NO OTHER POLITICIAN IN RECENT TIMES HAD BEEN SO INFLUENTIAL WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

3. IL SOLE (FT EQUIVALENT) WARNS THAT HER DEPARTURE FROM THE SCENE IS NOT THE TRANSNATIONAL VICTORY IT SEEMS, SINCE MRS THATCHER WAS ONE OF THE FEW WHO WAS NOT AFRAID TO MAKE DECISIONS. EUROPE HAD THUS LOST ITS BEST ALIBI AND SCAPEGOAT. CONTRARY TO PUBLIC OPINION, SHE WAS NOT ANTI-EUROPE: LOOK AT BRITAIN'S RECORD OF DIRECTIVES

COMPLIED WITH. OTHER PARTNERS WOULD BE UNABLE TO LEAVE HER TO DO THEIR DIRTY WORK ANY MORE. QUOTE THE ONLY GREAT EUROPEAN LEADER OF THE EIGHTIES LEAVES THE STAGE UNQUOTE. PRESIDENT BUSH ESPECIALLY WOULD MISS HER FIRM SUPPORT AND DECISIVENESS. LA STAMPA (CENTRIST, N ITALY) SAYS MRS THATCHER WAS NOT ALWAYS WRONG TO CRITICISE THE EC, BUT SHE WENT OVERBOARD AND LOST CREDIBILITY. 'HER STRENGTHS WERE ALSO HER WEAKNESSES'.... IT WAS TIME SHE WENT BEFORE PEOPLE FORGOT HOW GREAT AND INNOVATIVE SHE HAD BEEN.

4. THE WEEKLY PANORAMA TOOK THE LINE THAT, ALTHOUGH THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY, THE POLL TAX AND EUROPE WERE MAJOR FACTORS IN HER INCREASING UNPOPULARITY, MOST BRITISH POLITICIANS FOUND IT INTOLERABLE THAT A WOMAN SHOULD CONTINUE TO LEAD THEM. THE MORE POLITICALLY AWARE WEEKLY L'ESPRESSO REITERATED A POINT MADE BY SOME OF THE DAILIES, THAT THE BRITISH DO NOT (NOT) REALLY APPROVE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ANYWAY, AND THAT IT WAS BASICALLY THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AND THE POLL TAX WHICH LED TO MRS THATCHER'S INCREASINGLY UNPOPULARITY. AS FAR AS EUROPE WAS CONCERNED, HER DEPARTURE FROM DOWNING STREET WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT OF DISMANTLING OF THE BERLIN WALL (SIC).

5. APART FROM THE BENEFICIAL IMPACT THAT ITALIANS HOPE HER RESIGNATION WILL HAVE ON UK-EC RELATIONS, MOST POLITICAL COMMENT IS FULL OF ADMIRATION AND RESPECT FOR MRS THATCHER'S HONESTY AND COURAGE IN RESIGNING IN THE WAY SHE DID. ANDREOTTI (PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL) IS SAID TO HAVE COMMENTED THAT ITALIANS DO FIND ANYTHING TRAUMATIC IN CHANGING PRIME MINISTERS (CF. LA REPUBBLICA, PARA 2 ABOVE): ALTHOUGH MRS THATCHER'S VIEWS ON EUROPE, NOTABLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OF OTHER PARTNERS, HAD CAUSED PROBLEMS, ONE HAD TO ADMIRE HER, EVEN IF HER ISOLATION AT THE OCTOBER ROME COUNCIL HAD STARTED HER DOWNFALL. SPADOLINI, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, COMMENTED THAT MRS THATCHER'S GREATNESS WOULD PRESERVE HER A PLACE IN BRITISH HISTORY. NO EUROPEAN CITIZEN COULD FORGET THE OVERALL CONTRIBUTION OF ONE OF THE MAIN PLAYERS ON THE POLITICAL STAGE FOR OVER A DECADE. NILDE IOTTI, PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES, COMMENTED THAT THERE QUOTE HAD BEEN A LITTLE TOO MUCH IRON UNQUOTE AND HOPED THAT THE WAY WAS NOW OPEN FOR SMOOTHER RELATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND HER OTHER EC PARTNERS.

6. TELEVISION COVERAGE WAS EXTENSIVE BUT MAINLY FACTUAL ON 23 AND 24 NOVEMBER, BEFORE GIVING WAY TO THE WEEKEND'S SPORTING NEWS. IT WILL REVIVE TO COVER THE BALLOTING ON 27/28 NOVEMBER, AND ON 29/30 NOVEMBER IF A THIRD ROUND PROVES NECESSARY.

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 919  
OF 261345Z NOVEMBER 90

**ADVANCE COPY**

MESSAGE FROM MAZOWIECKI TO THE PRIME MINISTER

1. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF MAZOWIECKI'S LETTER OF 22 NOVEMBER:

BEGINS

I AM DEEPLY DISTURBED BY THE NEWS ABOUT YOUR DECISION. THE POLISH PEOPLE, INCLUDING MYSELF, REMEMBER WELL YOUR CONCERN ABOUT THE POLISH MATTERS DURING THE RECENT DIFFICULT YEARS, AS WELL AS THE GREAT MORAL AND POLITICAL ASSISTANCE THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN US. I CONTINUE TO BE PROFOUNDLY IMPRESSED BY THE PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH YOU, MADAME PRIME MINISTER, DURING MY VISIT IN LONDON AND I CHERISH THE MEMORIES NOT ONLY OF YOUR EXTRAORDINARY INSIGHT, INTELLECT AND ENERGY BUT ALSO OF WARMTH AND CORDIALITY.

I CONVEY TO YOU IN YOUR CAPACITY OF EMINENT STATESPERSON THE EXPRESSIONS OF MY DEEP-FELT ESTEEM. I REQUEST YOU TO REMEMBER THAT IN ME YOU HAVE A GOOD FRIEND THANKING YOU FOR WHAT IS NOW PAST AND WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST IN THE FUTURE.

I ASSURE YOU ALSO THAT I SHALL NOT FAIL IN MY EFFORT SO THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND POLAND - WITH THEIR GREAT PAGES FROM THE MOST DIFFICULT TEST OF WORLD WAR II - RENEWED AND STRENGTHENED AS THEY HAVE BEEN BY YOURSELF, WILL CONTINUE TO PROGRESS WELL IN CO-OPERATION WITH YOUR SUCCESSOR.  
ENDS.

2. ORIGINAL FOLLOWS BY BAG TO EED.

3. MIFT CONTAINS TEXT OF SKUBISZEWSKI'S STATEMENT ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESIGNATION.

BARRETT

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130727  
MDA N 6398

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Chyales

A letter has already  
gone to Nazowiecki.

hiz.



File  
H

C. Belan/wall

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

26 November 1990

I enclose some further letters from the Prime Minister, in reply to messages from Heads of Government and should be grateful if they could be despatched as soon as possible.

CHARLES D POWELL

J. S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

*[Handwritten mark]*



AP

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

Dear Chief Rishi,

Nothing could have given me more pleasure than your very kind letter, and there is no one whose high opinion means more to me. I have drawn enormous inspiration from your teachings and writings, and have been fascinated by our many encounters. It is very good of you to confirm the invitation to your Valedictory Dinner on 21 February, and I indeed look forward very much to being present to celebrate the outstanding contribution which you have made to the life of our country.

My husband joins me in sending you our warmest good wishes to you and Lady Jakobovits.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

Rajaw Shalita

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Jakobovits



PERSONAL

file

file



file

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

*Dear Winston - General,*

Thank you for your kind letter. My great regard for the work done by the Security Service in very difficult circumstances is unbounded. I would like to thank you and all the members of the Service for your unsung labours which have contributed so much to making this country safe and free.

With every good wish to you all.

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

—

Sir Patrick Walker, K.C.B.

PERSONAL

file



001

cc: Fco

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

Dear Chief-Anyaoku,

Thank you for your very nice letter. It was kind of you to write. Despite what has often been said, I am a great supporter of the Commonwealth and have always enjoyed the Heads of Government meetings - even those when I have been under attack! I had been looking forward to participating in the meeting in January, but I am sure it will be a great success and will chart the way ahead for the Commonwealth into the next century.

May I also wish you every success in your own post as Secretary-General.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely

Rajiv Gandhi

Chief Emeka C. Anyaoku, Con.

004



REC  
EAM

cc FCW

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

26 November 1990

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Helmut,

You were very kind to write, and in such warm and generous terms. I think it has been of immense benefit to both our countries and to Europe that both Britain and Germany had staunch conservative governments throughout most of the 1980s, and it has been a privilege to work with you. I shall always remember your generous hospitality, including our visits to Deidesheim and Speyer.

I wish you every success in your forthcoming elections and send best wishes to your wife and two sons, of whom you are so rightly proud.

Yours  
Raymond

His Excellency Dr Helmut Kohl

EA



REC  
MEM

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President*

Your very generous message touched me greatly and I am most grateful for your kindness. Your own achievements, both as Prime Minister and President, have been truly remarkable, and I have always looked forward to our meetings knowing that they would be full of wisdom and interest. Turkey's role in confronting Iraq's aggression against Kuwait has been of the greatest significance and I know that it owes much to your personal and courageous decision.

I was glad that we were able to have a last talk in Paris, and I wish you continuing success in the years ahead.

My husband joins me in sending every good wish to you and Mrs. Ozal.

*Warm regards.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Raymond Thatcher*

His Excellency Mr. Turgat Ozal

*Ch*



File  
Saw

cc FCW

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

Thank you for your very kind and warm message which I greatly appreciated. You know the very warm feelings we have for Portugal as Britain's oldest ally: and it was a great source of satisfaction that my time as Prime Minister coincided with Portugal's entry into the European Community. We all have happy memories of your visit here and indeed I well remember my own visit to Portugal in 1984, and am sorry that I have not yet managed to come back. But I hope we shall have another opportunity to see each other again. In the meantime I send my warmest regards and best wishes.

*Yours sincerely*

*Rafaela Salazar*

Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva

EA



File  
SRW

cc FEW

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President-*

Just to say I received your very kind message. I would very much like to take up your invitation to visit Prague again one day, and perhaps I might get in touch when I see a possibility. It was a very generous thought which I greatly appreciated.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Raymond Shafter*

His Excellency Mr. Vaclav Havel

3



File  
SPW

cc FW

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

26 November 1990

Dear Ibrahim,

I was touched by your very kind message and the generous things you have to say. I think that together we have managed to put relations between Britain and Nigeria on a new and much better footing, and I have immense admiration for all that you have achieved in your country. I have the happiest memories of my visit to Nigeria and very much hope we shall have an opportunity to meet again.

Denis joins me in sending you and Maryam warm good wishes.

Yours sincerely

Royal

His Excellency General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida CFR GCB

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PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CHARLES POWELL #10  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON FROM BRENT SCOWCROFT, ASSISTANT TO  
THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS.

DEAR CHARLES,

TO SAY I AM SADDENED BY THE RECENT TURN OF EVENTS WOULD BE A  
GROSS UNDERSTATEMENT. BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY I HAVE  
COME TO RELY ON YOU WITHOUT HESITATION. YOU HAVE MY ETERNAL  
GRATITUDE FOR MAKING MY JOB MUCH EASIER AND, ESPECIALLY, FOR  
BEING A FRIEND. WHATEVER THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR YOU, I AM ALWAYS  
AVAILABLE.

CHARLES, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD PASS THE  
FOLLOWING NOTE TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

WARM REGARDS,

BRENT

DEAR PRIME MINISTER:

I WAS ABSOLUTELY DEVASTATED BY THE UNEXPECTED NEWS OF YOUR  
DEPARTURE. WHILE THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WILL SURVIVE, THE  
QUALITY YOU BROUGHT TO IT CANNOT BE DUPLICATED. YOU HAVE BEEN A  
PILLAR OF STRENGTH, CONFIDENCE, WISDOM AND FRIENDSHIP THROUGH THE  
MOST COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT OF TIMES. WE SIMPLY COULD NOT HAVE  
DONE IT WITHOUT YOU AND, WITH TRYING DAYS AHEAD, WE SHALL SORELY  
MISS YOU.

WITH RESPECT AND WARM REGARDS,

BRENT

DECL: OADR  
BT  
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INCOMING



OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NIGERIA



TELEPHONE: 01-839 1244

9 NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE  
LONDON WC2N 5BX

*cc: [unclear]  
cc: [unclear]*

24 November, 1990.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP.,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London.

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I am instructed to transmit the enclosed message from President Babangida to you.

In doing so, may I add my respects and humble best wishes.

*Yours very sincerely,  
George Dove-Edwin*

G. Dove-Edwin.



State House  
Lagos  
Nigeria

23 November, 1990

The Right Honourable  
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON

*My Dear Margaret*

1. I have learnt with much sadness of your decision to resign as Prime Minister next week when a new leader of your Party is elected.
2. My countrymen and women followed with much admiration the robust conviction, courage and perseverance with which you pursued domestic policy initiatives such as the privatisation of State-owned enterprises and wider shares ownership among the population.
3. You also brought to foreign relations a fresh air of openness and pragmatic co-operation among nations which strengthened your country's voice in the international community but more importantly contributed directly to a lessening of world tensions.
4. I shall myself not forget the warm personal courtesies which you showed to me time and time again. Nor shall I forget the never-falling co-operation and valuable support which my Administration and the people of Nigeria received



from the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland over the past four years as we have set out to restructure our economy. In this period, and under your prime ministership as well as with your personal interest, our bilateral relations have truly soared to new heights. I look forward to a consolidation of these relations under your successor.

5. I wish you well in your future undertakings, and in doing so, may I also express the sincere hope that you will continue to put your great talents and boundless energy, and rich experience, to the service of mankind.

6. Maryam joins me in sending fondest regards to you and Denis.

*Yours most Sincerely  
Ibrahim Babangida.*

General Ibrahim B Babangida  
President  
Commander-In-Chief  
Armed Forces of Nigeria

FILE



2

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

24 November 1990

I enclose the Prime Minister's reply to President Gorbachev's message about her decision to resign. I should be grateful if you could arrange for it to be delivered as soon as possible.

(C. D. POWELL)

Stephen Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

*W*

FILE: MEM



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

24 November 1990

PRIME MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

I attach a further batch of letters dated 22 November to foreign Heads of Government, from the Prime Minister, about her decision to resign. I should be grateful if they could be delivered as soon as possible.

CHARLES D. POWELL

The Resident Clerk  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

*h*



*File 10*

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

24 November 1990

**PRIME MINISTER'S RESIGNATION**

I enclose a batch of replies from the Prime Minister to letters which she has received about her resignation. I should be grateful if you would arrange for their delivery as soon as possible, provided you are content with them.

C.D. POWELL

J.S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

*to*



file  
HW  
a FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

Thank you for your kind letter. It was good of you to write and your generous sentiments are much appreciated. It will seem strange no longer to be involved in all the matters we have discussed many times over the years. But I am grateful for all that we have been able to achieve together.

With best wishes,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

Onorevole Giulio Andreotti

*h*



*File  
HLW  
cc. FCO*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Dear Poul,*

Thank you for your kind letter which I appreciated very much. You have been the best of friends and I am glad that we were able to work together to change a few things in the European Community. I send you warmest best wishes for the future.

*Yours  
Margaret*

---

His Excellency Mr Poul Schluter

*So*





*File RT  
u.  
FED*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990.

*Dear Bob,*

You were very good to write so kindly following my decision to resign. I have the happiest memories of my own visit to Australia and your visit here: and I believe that, between us, we have put new life into the very important relationship between Australia and the United Kingdom.

With every good wish,

*Yours  
Rogers*

---

The Hon. R.J.L. Hawke, AC, MP.

*ls*



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Dear Mr. President,*

Thank you for your kind message. I have the greatest respect for all that you have achieved in South Africa and had hoped to be in a position to help you bring it to a successful conclusion. But you can count on my continued support outside Government - and I very much hope to find an opportunity to pay the visit to South Africa which I have so long wanted to make.

With every good wish to you and your wife.

*Warm regards,*

*Yours sincerely*

*Nayanshankar*

The Honourable F W de Klerk DMS

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*do*



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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

Dear Charlie,

It was good of you to write and I am most grateful for your kind words. I hope that the work we have done together will be taken forward, both security co-operation and political development, so that one day we can see a more peaceful future for Northern Ireland - which is what we both want.

With every good wish,

Yours  
Margaret

Mr. Charles Haughey, T.D.

ds



*File  
also  
cc FCO*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Dear Brian,*

Thank you for your telephone calls and your lovely message. You have been the kindest of friends, always able to find time to give encouragement and support to others. Your advice on the televising of Parliament was absolutely invaluable. I know the problems you face but am sure you will find a way through by sticking to your principles and the policies we both believe in.

I was so glad we were able to see each other in Paris. Please give our love to Mila.

*Tomson  
Rayson  
—*

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney

*do*



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MT  
FCS  
a

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

Jean M. President

You were most generous to write in such warm terms. I shall very much miss our regular meetings. I have benefited greatly from your wisdom over the years and always appreciated the great courtesy which you extended to me. I hope that our joint efforts have set Britain and France on a course towards the closer co-operation which is in the interests of both, not least in the sphere of defence. In particular, I believe that the completion of the Channel Tunnel will be an event of enormous significance in the history of both countries and in shaping attitudes in Britain towards Europe.

With warm regards to you and Madame Mitterrand,

Yours sincerely

Theresa May

—

His Excellency Monsieur le President Francois Mitterrand, GCB.

As



*file  
ret  
cc*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Jean Charrelon,*

You were very kind to write so warmly and I very much appreciate your generous comments. I have the happiest of memories of my several visits to Austria and the warm welcome which I have always received, and I hope that I shall indeed have more opportunities to come in future.

In the meantime, may I send you my warmest regards.

*Yours sincerely  
Rajawanshakar*

His Excellency Dr. Franz Vranitzky

*h*



File  
M.J.  
cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

You were very good to write in such kind terms. As you know I have an enormous affection for Poland, particularly following my visit, and I shall continue to take the closest interest in developments. We are all willing you to succeed.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

—

His Excellency Mr Tadeusz Mazowiecki

to



File  
TW  
cc. FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Dear Dr. Hewson,*

Your wonderfully generous and kind letter was a great consolation at a difficult moment and I am enormously grateful to you and your colleagues for the kind things you say. There can be no greater privilege than to serve one's country as Prime Minister and to feel one has had a hand in great events.

I should indeed very much like to see you when you visit Britain and I hope you will get in touch.

*Yours sincerely*

*Nayanshu Kohli*

Dr. John Hewson, M.P.

*to*





File KK  
a. FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

*Jean-Pierre Chirac.*

Thank you for your very kind message. I have always valued your friendship and, working together, we were able to achieve a great deal. I hope very much we can remain in touch with each other in the period ahead.

With every good wish,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

Monsieur le Premier Ministre Jacques Chirac

*to*



File KK  
c. Feb

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November, 1990

Dear Mr. Bossano,

Thank you very much for your letter of 22 November. You were kind to write in such warm terms. The interests of Gibraltar and its people have always been close to my heart, and I send my good wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Walker

The Honourable Joseph Bossano

6

PRIME MINISTER

PRESIDENT HAVEL

Prince Schwarzenberg telephoned this morning from President Havel's office. President Havel felt rather shy about trying to telephone you personally because his English was not very good on the telephone. But he wanted you to know that he was dismayed by what had happened and would like you to go to Prague to stay at the Castle whenever you want and for as long as you want. The invitation was made with the greatest possible sincerity. I said that I knew you would be most grateful. And I thought you might take it up!

C.D.P. mf

C. D. POWELL

23 November 1990

tmw a:\havel

*Portuguese Embassy,  
11, Belgrave Square,  
London, SW1X 8PP*

FREE TRANSLATION

"Lisbon, 23rd November, 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

It was with great sadness that I heard of your decision to resign as Prime Minister. I recall, at this moment, the good personal relations and the cooperation we have always maintained; they were of great importance to the strengthening of the friendly relations which are reflected in such a positive way both in the contacts between the United Kingdom and Portugal and in the framework of the Atlantic Alliance and of the European Community.

I am certain that you have gained a place in history by the determination with which you have conducted the political life of your country and also by the way you have influenced the course of international events during the last eleven years.

I wish to convey to you my deep respect and friendship and to tell you how welcome you would be if you were to visit Portugal.

With my warmest regards and my very best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,

Aníbal A. Cavaco Silva  
Prime Minister of Portugal"

# PERSONAL

Correspondence to this address must be under double cover. The outer envelope should be addressed to  
The Secretary PO Box 500 London SW1P 1XH and not to any individual.



**PO Box 500**  
**London SW1P 1XH**

Telephone 071-388 3232 ext.  
071-491 4488 ext.  
GTN 3085 ext.

23 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I wanted to write to you before you left office to thank you on behalf of the Security Service for all the support and encouragement you have given us during your years in office. The first part of the 1980s with the BETTANEY case and its aftermath and the Peter Wright saga were not easy. The second half of the decade has produced a reconstructed and confident Service. At no stage did our professional competence decline but the changes and improvements in the Service owe an enormous amount to your interest. In particular, I mention your agreement to legislate for the Service, your decisions which resulted in us getting the extra resources we needed and, not least, your appointment of my predecessor, Tony Duff. For all of this the whole Service is grateful.

2. With very best wishes for the future.

*Yours sincerely*

*Patrick Walker*

Patrick Walker

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
No 10 Downing Street

---

# PERSONAL

The Right Honourable  
Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister of the United  
Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland

My Dear Prime Minister,

It was with much regret that I have received your message informing me of your decision to step down as Prime Minister as soon as a new party leader has been elected.

Although courageous decisions have over the years become a hallmark of your distinguished career at the helm of your country this one, Mrs. Prime Minister, has us all saddened.

For not only have you been a remarkable leader of historic achievements in your own country, but also an outstanding international personality whose intellect and wisdom have won the respect of everyone around the world.

When you look back on your close to twelve years in office as Prime Minister, not to mention your earlier successful political career, there is a treasure of achievements for you and for those who admire you to be proud of.

You have invigorated an ailing economy and enhanced the role of the United Kingdom as an ardent defender of democracy and peace, befitting your country's glorious past.

During your term in office, which happily coincided in great part with my own in Turkey, there is much ground to feel great satisfaction and indeed pride with the level of our bilateral relations, in political, as well as economic and other fields. You have always been a personal true friend and your country a staunch ally under your leadership.

Page 2.

As I watched you on the television yesterday, fighting it out with as great determination as ever at the House of Commons, I felt assured once again that the free world could continue to count on your exceptional qualities and wisdom and benefit from your vast experience in the future, as it did in the past.

With warmest of feeling, I wish you continued health and happiness and many prosperous years to come.

With kind regards.

TURGUT ÖZAL

TURKISH EMBASSY

43, BELGRAVE SQUARE  
LONDON, SW1X 8PA  
Tel.No. 01-235 5252

*ccpc  
ccpress*

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey present their compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and have the honour to request that the enclosed text of the telegraphic message from His Excellency Turgut Özal, President of Turkey, to Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland be delivered to its High Destination.

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office assurances of their highest consideration.

London, 23rd November 1990

Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
London SW1





Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of  
Germany

Helmut Wegner  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

London, 23 November 1990

copy  
+ Press

OM

Dear Prime Minister,

I have the honour to transmit the enclosed message from Herr  
Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

A courtesy translation is attached.

Yours sincerely  
Helmut Wegner

Her Excellency  
The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Her Majesty's Prime Minister and  
First Lord of the Treasury  
L o n d o n

2) Wv: Ro

Courtesy Translation

23 • November 1990

Letter

from

Herr Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the  
Federal Republic of Germany

to

Her Excellency The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland

Prime Minister,  
dear Margaret

I should like to thank you for your message of 22 November 1990.

You can look back with pride and great satisfaction to more than a decade of successful activity at the helm of your country. Through your consistent policy, faithful to principles, you have made a lasting imprint on the United Kingdom and opened new and far-reaching perspectives for the future. Thus you have earned high esteem world-wide for yourself and for your country.

Due to your staunch commitment to peace which guarantees not only security but freedom as well you have contributed in particular to the strengthening of the Western Alliance. This proved to be an important precondition for the historic changes in Europe to which both of us were able to contribute.

We will not forget your personal efforts for overcoming the division of Europe and thus of Germany as well. For this I want to convey to you my very special thanks.

I will always cherish the trustful, friendly and open co-operation we have had over more than eight years.

May we convey to you and to Denis our best wishes for the future.

With warm regards  
sgd. Helmut Kohl

23. November 1990

Botschaft  
von  
Herrn Helmut Kohl  
Bundeskanzler der Bundesrepublik Deutschland  
an  
Ihre Exzellenz  
The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher  
Premierminister des Vereinigten Königreichs  
Großbritannien und Nordirland

Sehr geehrte Frau Premierministerin,  
liebe Margaret,

für Ihre Botschaft vom 22. November 1990 danke ich Ihnen herzlich.

Sie können mit Stolz und großer Genugtuung auf ein über ein Jahrzehnt erfolgreiches Wirken an der Spitze Ihres Landes zurückblicken. Sie haben das Vereinigte Königreich durch Ihre konsequente und prinzipientreue Politik entscheidend geprägt und ihm neue und weitreichene Chancen für die Zukunft eröffnet. Damit haben Sie sich persönlich und Ihrem Land weltweit hohes Ansehen erworben.

Mit Ihrem großen Engagement für einen Frieden, der nicht nur Sicherheit, sondern auch die Freiheit garantiert, haben Sie in besonderem Maße zur Stärkung des westlichen Bündnisses beigetragen. Das war eine wesentliche Voraussetzung dafür, daß die historischen Veränderungen in Europa möglich wurden, die wir gemeinsam mitgestalten durften. Wir werden Ihr persönliches Wirken für die Überwindung der Teilung Europas und damit Deutschlands nicht vergessen.

Hierfür möchte ich Ihnen ganz besonders danken.

An die über achtjährige gemeinsame, vertrauensvolle Zusammenarbeit mit Ihnen, die stets durch Freundschaft und Offenheit geprägt war, werde ich gerne zurückdenken.

Für die Zukunft gelten Ihnen und Denis unsere besten Wünsche.

In herzlicher Verbundenheit

Ihr Helmut Kohl

*Dear Mrs Thatcher,*

After more than a decade of working for you in the councils of Europe, we should like to express our appreciation of the confidence you have always shown in the Commission's interpreting service.

On a more personal note, may we say that we derived enormous pleasure and enjoyment from being both spectators and players during your many memorable innings.


We shall greatly miss your responsiveness, consideration and unflagging energy.

On behalf of all the interpreting staff, we wish you the very best for the future.

Yours sincerely,



Dick FLEMING  
(your personal interpreter  
at European Councils)



Renée van HOOF-HAFERKAMP  
Director-General

Rt. Hon. Mrs. M. THATCHER, Prime Minister  
10, Downing Street

GB - LONDON  
-----

*cbress*

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL  
MARLBOROUGH HOUSE · PALL MALL · LONDON SW1Y 5HX

23 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I was on my way to Papua New Guinea when I heard the sad news of your decision to resign from office. I hope you will understand therefore my having to send this letter by fax; but I wanted to write as soon as I could to say how much you will be missed and to thank you for the many rare qualities of strength, courage and integrity which you brought to national and international affairs.

Regardless of occasional differences of viewpoint on means, you have always been a robust supporter of the Commonwealth and its objectives. Indeed, I had been especially looking forward to having the benefit of your guidance and wisdom in the coming months as the High-Level Appraisal of the Commonwealth in the 1990s and beyond reaches its climax. I know it is an initiative to which you attach considerable importance.

Whatever your immediate feelings I hope you will appreciate just how much your many achievements as Prime Minister have been widely admired not only in Britain but also internationally. Many, especially in the Commonwealth, will recall with particular gratitude your outstanding contribution to the process which brought independence and democracy to Zimbabwe.

Lastly, I feel I must express my deep personal gratitude for the courtesy which you paid me when I called upon you in July at the start of my period of office. Your words of wisdom then and in our more recent conversation were a source of immense encouragement to me. Your many Commonwealth friends will be sorry to see you leave office but will want to wish you and Mr Thatcher all happiness in the future.

With deep respect

*and warm personal regards  
Yours sincerely*

*Emeka Anyaoku.*

Emeka Anyaoku

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister of Britain

*cbp*

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE · PALL MALL · LONDON SW1Y 5HX

23 November 1990

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With deep respect

*and warm personal regards  
Yours sincerely**Emeka Anyaoku*

Emeka Anyaoku

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
Prime Minister of Britain





10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 November 1990

Your Highness.

I was extremely touched by your immensely kind letter and the most beautiful flowers. You know my deep attachment to your country and people. Our regular meetings have always been of the greatest interest and I hope very much that these will continue. Indeed I understand that you will be coming in on Monday, to which I am much looking forward.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

His Royal Highness Prince Bandar bin Sultan bin Abdul Aziz  
Al Saud

CDP

File  
APW  
cc. FCO

cc PRESS

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL  
PALACE GREEN  
LONDON, W8 4QB  
Telephone: 071-937 8050  
Fax: 071-937 5184



שגרירות ישראל  
לונדון

*cb*

23rd November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

I am enclosing the message from the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr Yitzhak Shamir.

May I be allowed to join my Prime Minister in expressing my sincere respect and gratitude for your unique contribution to the State of Israel and the Jewish Nation at large.

*Sincerely,  
Y. Biran*

Yoav Biran  
Ambassador of Israel

The Rt. Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, PC, FRS, MP,  
Prime Minister,  
10, Downing Street,  
London S W 1

Leader of the Opposition



*CCAs*

23 NOV 1990

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher FRS, MP  
Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and  
Minister for the Civil Service  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
UNITED KINGDOM

Dear Prime Minister

Following your announcement that you will be standing down as Prime Minister, I want to congratulate you, both personally and on behalf of the Liberal Party of Australia, on all that you have achieved during more than fifteen years as Leader of the Conservative Party and more than eleven years as Prime Minister.

You have championed the freedom of individuals and freedom of nations in a remarkably successful way. In doing so, you have exposed yet again the delusions of those who believe in the power of a corporate state built on deals between big governments, big business and big unions.

Your success has proved yet again the power of an idea: that individuals should be given genuine freedom of choice and the incentive to achieve the best they can and that society must have a clear view of its values and be prepared to defend them.

In demonstrating the power of that idea, both in peace and war, you gave inspiration to people not just in Britain but around the world.

You were in the vanguard of what has turned out to be a revolution of ideas that has seen the bankruptcy of communism and centralised government control exposed and the cause of free enterprise and democracy triumph.

In this context, your achievement is an historic one which will endure for many years to come.

.../2

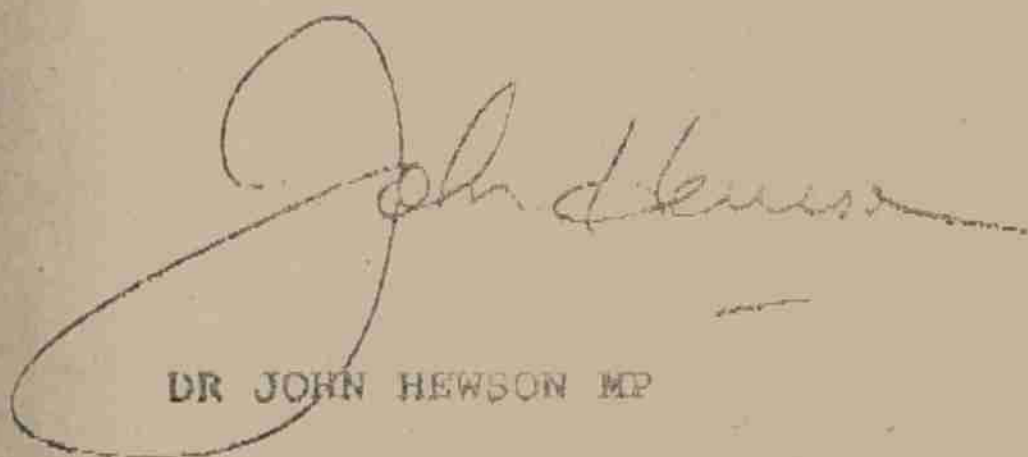
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In particular, the importance you attached to developing the ties between Australia and the United Kingdom during a period of dramatic international change has served our historic relationship well and given it a new, realistic and productive base from which to build in the future.

I greatly appreciated the opportunity I had to meet with you at Gallipoli in April this year and I regret that I will not have the benefit of working with you in organisations such as the International Democrat Union. I trust, however, that it will be possible to meet again when I visit Britain, hopefully at some time next year.

I wish you well in the days ahead.

Yours sincerely



DR JOHN HEWSON MP

Leader of the Opposition



*C. J. P. O'S*

23 NOV 1990

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher FRS, MP  
Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and  
Minister for the Civil Service  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
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I wish you well in the days ahead.

Yours sincerely



DR JOHN HEWSON MP



R23/11  
✓ Files

Ref. 120.Stb.1/1

London, 23 November 1990

*CD*

*Mr. Powell,*

Please find enclosed copy of a letter dated 22 November 1990 from the Danish Prime Minister, Mr. Poul Schlüter, to the Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP.

I would be very grateful if you would kindly forward the letter to the Prime Minister.

*H.M. Kofoed-Hansen*  
*Minister-Counsellor*

H.M. Kofoed-Hansen  
Minister-Counsellor

*PS: Original to follow.*

C.D. Powell, Esq.  
Private Secretary to  
the Prime Minister  
No. 10 Downing Street  
London SW1

Together with large arrangement  
of flowers.

Bandar Bin Sultan Bin Abdulaziz



23<sup>rd</sup> November 1990.

Dear Prime Minister,

Need I tell you with what consternation and immense regret we in Saudi Arabia, and myself in particular, learned of your decision to stand down?

No British leader in modern times, Winston Churchill notwithstanding, has so earned the admiration and gratitude of my family and my countrymen and the free world. You have shown us that Britain, under the right leadership, can be great indeed.

I shall miss you very much. I am still recovering from the shock of knowing that you will no longer be presiding in Downing Street. But I would like to feel that you would allow me to consult you frequently and draw on your wisdom at difficult moments - of which I suspect, there will be many in the months and years ahead.

Let me say that I personally fully recognise that, if peace is to return to our part of the world, it will be largely because you, at the very start of the present crisis, took a resolute and unshakable stand against aggression.

My warmest good wishes and blessings accompany you into the next phase of your remarkable career.

Your friend and admirer

Bandar Bin Sultan





Dear Margaret

I want to express to you personally my great appreciation for the contribution you have made to the international political scene and to the relationship between Australia and the United Kingdom. Your courage and commitment to principle, and your opposition to aggression - as exemplified by the British response to the Gulf crisis - are qualities which deserve the greatest respect. Despite the differences we have had on some issues, I have always appreciated your direct and straightforward approach.

I appreciate, too, the personal commitment you have made to rejuvenate our bilateral relationship and to make sure that Australia and the UK do not take each other for granted. The broad base of our current relationship is testament to your own efforts in this area.

I wish you well for the future. Whatever path you now choose to follow, I know your contribution will be active and lively and that we will continue to hear of you over the years to come.

With best wishes.

BOB HAWKE

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Letter

to: The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP  
from: Signor Giulio Andreotti  
date: Rome, 23rd November, 1990

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

Yesterday I received your kind message with which you inform me of your decision to step down as Prime Minister.

I am very sorry indeed that you relinquish your high office at such a delicate moment in the life of the world, deeply aware, as I am, of the significance of your role and action, so passionately pursued in these past years, for the improvement of East-West relations, for the strengthening of the ties between the two shores of the Atlantic, for the development of the relations with the Soviet Union and the nations of the East and for the common work carried out in the various international fora.

I too remember with pleasure the numerous occasions in which we met and wish to thank you for the support and cooperation shown by you on so many issues of common interest.

I am confident that the bilateral relations between our two countries, already excellent in all fields, as demonstrated by the recent State Visit that President Cossiga paid to the United Kingdom, to which you gave such a decisive impulse, will continue to prosper.

In formulating my most fervent best wishes for your future, I send you my warmest personal regards.

Signed: Giulio Andreotti.



*Al Presidente  
del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Roma, 23 novembre 1990

*Cara signora Thatcher,*

ho ricevuto ieri il Suo cortese messaggio, nel quale Ella ha voluto annunciarmi la decisione di dimettersi dalla carica di Primo Ministro.

Mi dispiace molto che Lei lasci il Suo alto incarico in un momento così delicato della vita internazionale, ben sapendo quanto sia stato significativo il Suo ruolo e la Sua azione, perseguita con tanto impegno in questi anni per il miglioramento dei rapporti Est-Ovest, per il consolidamento dei legami tra le due sponde dell'Atlantico, per lo sviluppo delle relazioni con l'Unione Sovietica e i Paesi dell'Est e per il comune lavoro svolto nei vari fori internazionali.

Serbo anch'io un gradito ricordo delle numerose occasioni di incontro con Lei e desidero ringraziarLa per l'appoggio e la cooperazione di cui Ella ha sempre dato prova su tante questioni di comune interesse.

Sono certo che i rapporti bilaterali tra i nostri due Paesi, che sono ottimi in tutti i campi, come ha dimostrato la recente visita di Stato del Presidente Cossiga nel Regno Unito ed ai quali Lei ha dato un decisivo impulso, continueranno a rafforzarsi.

Nel formulare i voti più fervidi per il futuro, desidero inviarLe i più cordiali saluti.

*Giulio Andreotti*

---

S.E. Margaret THATCHER  
Primo Ministro del Regno Unito  
di Gran Bretagna e Irlanda del Nord

LONDRA

*C. P. M.*

*The Italian Ambassador*

*Italian Embassy  
4, Grosvenor Square  
London, W. 1.*

12338

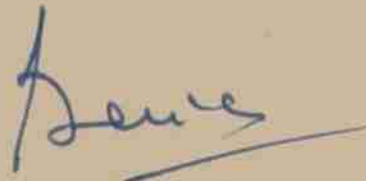
23rd November, 1990

*Dear Charles,*

I take pleasure in enclosing herewith the text of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister, from the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti, together with a rough translation of the same.

The original letter will be forwarded to you in due course.

*Yours truly*



Boris Biancheri

Encs

Mr Charles Powell  
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister  
(Overseas Affairs)  
10 Downing St  
London S W 1

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UNCLASSIFIED  
FM PRETORIA  
TO DESKBY 230830Z FCO  
TELNO 466  
OF 230805Z NOVEMBER 90

**ADVANCE COPY**

PRESIDENT DE KLERK'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

1. PRESIDENT DE KLERK SENT TO ME LAST NIGHT A PERSONAL MESSAGE (TEXT IN PARA 3 BELOW) FOR THE PRIME MINISTER. DE KLERK SAID THAT HE HAD WRITTEN THIS JUST BEFORE RECEIVING THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO HIM. SOUTH AFRICA OWED A GREAT DEAL TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND THAT WOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN. DE KLERK SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT.

2. MANDELA MADE A POSITIVE STATEMENT TO THE BBC, SAYING THAT THE ANC HAD MUCH TO THANK THE PRIME MINISTER FOR EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD DISAGREED ON STRATEGY OVER ENDING APARTHEID. BUTHELEZI, HELEN SUZMAN AND HARRY OPPENHEIMER ALSO HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH. I HAVE PASSED ON TO THEM AND TO MANDELA THE PRIME MINISTER'S PERSONAL REGARDS.

3. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF DE KLERK'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER:

DEAR MRS THATCHER

MY WIFE AND I HAVE LEARNT WITH SADNESS OF YOUR DECISION TO RELINQUISH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, WHICH CARRIES WITH IT THE OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT, WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS, YOU ARE VERY MUCH IN OUR THOUGHTS AT WHAT MUST BE FOR YOU A PERIOD OF GREAT PAIN AND DISAPPOINTMENT.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST OVER A LONG PERIOD HAS BEEN INVALUABLE TO ME. OUR RELATIONSHIP WAS CHARACTERIZED BY MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND WARMTH. MORE THAN THAT, I APPRECIATE THE FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING THAT GREW BETWEEN US.

I PAY TRIBUTE TO YOU FOR THE ROLE YOU HAVE PLAYED DURING YOUR TENURE OF OFFICE IN PROMOTING RATIONAL POLICIES TOWARDS SOUTH

UNCLASSIFIED

23002  
MDADAN 6024

AFRICA BY YOUR GOVERNMENT, THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE COMMONWEALTH. YOUR FAITH THAT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD FIND A JUST ACCOMMODATION AND YOUR COURAGE IN STANDING BY YOUR CONVICTIONS HAVE BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO ME PERSONALLY AND TO ALL SOUTH AFRICANS.

I KNOW THAT YOUR PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, EUROPE AND THE WORLD IS ASSURED. YOUR STAND ON PRINCIPLE, STEADFASTNESS AND YOUR VISION WILL REMAIN AN EXAMPLE FOR WORLD LEADERS.

IN APPRECIATION

SINCERELY

F W DE KLERK

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO NO. 10

RENWICK

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

3

ADVANCE

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PS NO.10

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PAGE 2  
UNCLASSIFIED

W  
A: Lubbers

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

Netherlands Prime Minister

The Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Mr. Ruud Lubbers, telephoned the Prime Minister this morning.

Mr. Lubbers said he had tried hard to get through to the Prime Minister yesterday but, not surprisingly, she had been too busy. He was very concerned to know how she was bearing up in the very difficult situation. He knew her well enough to be confident that her resolve and determination would see her through. Her steady character which had served the world so well would serve her well now. She had shown tremendous dignity. The great thing was she would be leaving office with her record clear and undefeated. She would also be a very welcome guest in the Netherlands at any time. The Prime Minister said she would very much like to take up the invitation one day.

C D P

C. D. POWELL

23 November 1990



SLH

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Dear Mr. President:

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

*Rajiv Gandhi*

The Honourable R.G. Mugabe

08





The Rt. Hon. The Lord Jakobovits

85 Hamilton Terrace  
London NW8

22 November 1990

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P., F.R.S.  
Prime Minister.

My dear Mrs. Thatcher,

The announcement of your decision to resign is the source of the most profound anguish.

Since you assumed the supreme leadership of the nation, neither Britain nor the world have been the same, nor will they be the same again after your departure. The mark you left on the fortunes of the entire world makes you into one of the immortals of all times. Your fearless resolve not to compromise with terrorism, and - perhaps even more enduring - your critical contribution to the collapse of Communism are but two examples of your quite unique combination of vision with iron determination which will place the world into your debt for ever.

Israel and the Jewish people here and abroad have particular cause to hail your friendship and unflinching concern.

For me personally, as well as for my wife, there is no-one to whom I will ever owe more and whom I will ever hold in higher respect. We are absolutely delighted to be honoured by you at the Valedictory Dinner planned for February 21.

With every blessing to you and Mrs. Thatcher, also on behalf of my wife,

Respectfully yours,  
Iman Jakobovits.

PRIME MINISTER

I attach a message from President Mitterrand which, in rough translation, reads:

"I have just learned of your intention to resign as the Prime Minister after more than eleven years. It must have been a very difficult decision, but I would like to say how very much I have appreciated the many meetings we have had over the past decade. Our views have sometimes differed but often we have reached similar conclusions. With your tremendous conviction and uncommon will, you have put your stamp on an important moment in the history of your country and of Europe. I hope that once this page of your political career has been turned you will continue to play an international role and that we shall have the opportunity to continue our never less than stimulating discussions.

I send you my warm good wishes"

I attach a reply which you might care to send.

Charles Powell

23 November 1990

c: Mitterrand (MJ)

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE  
LONDRES

*CCPrest*

L'AMBASSADEUR

23rd November 1990

N° 2556

*CGD*  
*23/11/90*

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I have just received by telegramme  
the text of a personal message addressed  
to you by Monsieur François Mitterrand,  
Président of the French Republic.

Please, find it herewith,

*Yours faithfully*

p.o. Luc de La Barre de Nanteuil

*RL*

The Rt.Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister  
10, Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

MADAME LE PREMIER MINISTRE,

JE VIENS D'APPRENDRE VOTRE INTENTION DE RENONCER AUX  
FONCTIONS QUE VOUS OCCUPEZ DEPUIS PLUS DE ONZE ANS.

A L'HEURE OU VOUS ETES AMENEE A PRENDRE UNE DECISION DONT  
J'IMAGINE CE QU'ELLE A PU VOUS COUTER, JE VOUDRAIS VOUS DIRE COMBIEN  
J'AI APPRECIE, TOUT AU LONG DE LA DERNIERE DECENNIE, LES OCCASIONS  
MULTIPLES D'ECHANGER NOS VUES, DE NOUS OPPOSER PARFOIS, MAIS SOUVENT  
AUSSI DE NOUS ACCORDER SUR NOS ANALYSES.

AVEC UNE FORCE DE CONVICTION ET UNE VOLONTE PEU COMMUNE, VOUS  
AUREZ MARQUE UN MOMENT IMPORTANT DE L'HISTOIRE DE VOTRE PAYS ET  
EGALEMENT, DE L'EUROPE QUI SE CONSTRUIT.

J'ESPERE QU'UNE FOIS TOURNEE CETTE PAGE DE VOTRE CARRIERE  
PUBLIQUE, VOUS CONSERVEREZ UN CONTACT AVEC LES ACTIVITES  
INTERNATIONALES ET QUE NOUS AURONS AINSI LA POSSIBILITE DE POURSUIVRE  
UN DIALOGUE TOUJOURS PASSIONNANT.

JE VOUS PRIE DE CROIRE, MADAME LE PREMIER MINISTRE, A  
L'ASSURANCE DE MES TRES RESPECTUEUX HOMMAGES ET DE MON FIDELE  
SOUVENIR.

FRANCOIS MITTERRAND

22 1990/1817

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ETATPRIORITE

MADAME MARGARET THATCHER

PREMIER MINISTRE DU ROYAUME UNI DE GRANDE BRETAGNE

ET D IRLANDE DU NORD

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDRES

MADAME LE PREMIER MINISTRE

JE VIENS D APPRENDRE VOTRE INTENTION DE RENONCER AUX FONCTIONS

QUE VOUS OCCUPEZ DEPUIS PLUS DE ONZE ANS

A L HEURE OU VOUS ETES AMENEES A PRENDRE UNE DECISION DONT J IMAGINE

CE QU ELLE A PU VOUS COUTER JE VOUDRAIS VOUS DIRE COMBIEN J AI

APPRECIE TOUT AU LONG DE LA DERNIERE DECENNIE LES OCCASIONS

MULTIPLES D ECHANGER NOS VUES DE NOUS OPPOSER PARFOIS MAIS SOUVENT

AUSSI DE NOUS ACCORDER SUR NOS ANALYSES

AVEC UNE FORCE DE CONVICTION ET UNE VOLONTE PEU COMMUNE VOUS AUREZ

MARQUE UN MOMENT IMPORTANT DE L HISTOIRE DE VOTRE PAYS ET

EGALEMENT DE L EUROPE QUI SE CONSTRUIT J ESPERE QU UNE FOIS

TOURNEE CETTE PAGE DE VOTRE CARRIERE PUBLIQUE VOUS CONSERVEREZ

UN CONTACT AVEC LES ACTIVITES INTERNATIONALES ET QUE NOUS AURONS

AINSI LA POSSIBILITE DE POURSUIVRE UN DIALOGUE TOUJOURS

PASSIONNANT

JE VOUS PRIE DE CROIRE MADAME LE PREMIER MINISTRE A L ASSURANCE

DE MES TRES RESPECTUEUX HONNAGES ET DE MON FIDELE SOUVENIR

FRANCOIS MITTERRAND

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ETATPRIORITE

THE RT. HON. PRIME MINISTER

MARGARET THATCHER

DOWNING STREET 10

LONDON SW1

DEAR PRIME MINISTER, ALTHOUGH YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS  
MORNING WAS IMMEDIATELY BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION, I THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE AND FOR INFORMING ME PERSONALLY ABOUT  
YOUR DECISION. I HAVE DURING THE PAST YEARS VALUED OUR  
CO-OPERATION VERY HIGHLY AND HAVE APPRECIATED EVERY  
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE  
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. I SHARE YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT MUCH  
WAS ACCOMPLISHED NOT ONLY IN THE FIELD OF OUR BILATERAL  
RELATIONS BUT ALSO IN OUR EUROPEAN ENDEAVOURS TO WHICH WE  
BOTH ATTACH SUCH IMPORTANCE.

TO MY PERSONAL THANKS FOR THIS CLOSE AND REWARDING  
COOPERATION AND MY BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE, I WOULD  
LIKE TO ADD MY HOPE THAT WE WILL SEE YOU AGAIN AND PERHAPS  
MORE OFTEN IN AUSTRIA.

WITH MY VERY BEST REGARDS,

SINCERELY YOURS

FRANZ VRANITZKY

FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF AUSTRIA

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(Unofficial translation)

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Tadeusz Mazowiecki

Dear Prime Minister,

I am deeply moved by the news of your decision. Polish people and myself remember well your interest in Poland and things Polish during the recent, difficult years and the great moral as well as political support which we received from you. Our personal interactions during my visit to London continue to strongly impress me not only for your extraordinary acumen, intellect and vigour, but also for your warmth and friendliness.

Allow me, Madam, to express my deepest respect to you as an eminent and distinguished stateswoman. Be assured that I shall remain a friend thankful for the past and wishing you all the best for the future.

I shall spare no effort to ensure that the relations between Poland and Britain, which share the proud charter of their most trying test during World War II and which you refreshed and strengthened, continue to advance in cooperation with your successor.

(s) T. Mazowiecki

Her Excellency  
Rt. Hon. Margaret THATCHER MP,  
Prime Minister  
of the United Kingdom.

Warsaw,  
November 22, 1990.

National Emblem of Poland  
Chairman of the Council of Ministers  
Tadeusz Mazowiecki

Dear Prime Minister,

I am deeply disturbed by the news about your decision. The Polish people, including myself, remember well your concern about the Polish matters during the recent difficult years, as well as the great moral and political assistance that you have given us. I continue to be profoundly impressed by the personal contacts with you, Madame Prime Minister, during my visit in London and I cherish the memories not only of your extraordinary insight, intellect and energy but also of warmth and cordiality.

I convey to you in your capacity of eminent statesperson the expressions of my deep-felt esteem. I request you to remember that in me you have a good friend thanking you for what is now past and wishing you all the best in the future.

I assure you also that I shall not fail in my effort so that the relations between the United Kingdom and Poland - with their great pages from the most difficult test of World War II - renewed and strengthened as they have been by yourself, will continue to progress well in co-operation with your successor.

Warsaw, 22 November 1990

/Sgd/T. Mazowiecki

The Right Honourable  
Mrs Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom





PREZES RADY MINISTRÓW

*Tadeusz Mazowiecki*

Szanowna Pani Premier,

Jestem głęboko poruszony wiadomością o Pani decyzji. Polskie społeczeństwo jak i ja osobiście dobrze pamiętamy Pani zainteresowanie Polską i polskimi sprawami w ostatnich trudnych latach i wielką pomoc moralną i polityczną, jakiej nam Pani udzieliła. Pozostaję pod dużym wrażeniem osobistych kontaktów z Panią Premier podczas mojej wizyty w Londynie, z których zachowuję w pamięci nie tylko Pani niezwykłą przenikliwość, intelekt i energię, ale także ciepło i serdeczność.

Składam Pani, jako wybitnemu mężowi stanu wyrazy mojego głębokiego szacunku. Proszę pamiętać, że ma Pani we mnie przyjaciela, który dziękuje za to, co było i życzy Pani wszystkiego najlepszego w przyszłości.

Zapewniam również, że dołożę starań aby stosunki między Wielką Brytanią i Polską, które mają swoją wielką kartę z czasów najtrudniejszej próby w okresie II wojny światowej, odnowione i umocnione przez Panią, rozwijały się dalej pomyślnie we współpracy z Pani następcą.

*T. Mazowiecki*

Jej Ekscelencja  
Pani Margaret THATCHER  
Premier  
Wielkiej Brytanii

Warszawa,  
dnia 22 listopada 1990 roku

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

It is with great emotion that I learn of the decision that you have just taken.

Once again, by your dignified and courageous attitude, you give an example of devotion to the higher interests of your country and your party.

I have, on this occasion, to bring to your attention the very profound appreciation that I have always had for you yourself and for the policies that you have followed for more than eleven years as head of the UK Government.

All the friends of your country are conscious of the historic rôle that you have played to give Great Britain the position that it enjoys.

Your policies, which became part of the great tradition of the British Conservative party, will leave a profound impression on the many areas they affected.

Come what may, values of liberty and responsibility will remain a source of inspiration for ever for both men and nations.

[Formal close]

Signed: J Chirac

RK5AFL/1

Paris, le 22 novembre 1990

Madame le Premier Ministre,

C'est avec beaucoup d'émotion que j'apprends la décision que vous venez de prendre.

Une fois de plus, par votre attitude toute de dignité et de courage, vous donnez l'exemple du dévouement aux intérêts supérieurs de votre pays et de votre parti.

Je tiens, en cette occasion, à vous adresser le témoignage de la très profonde estime que j'ai toujours eue pour vous-même et pour l'action que vous avez conduite pendant plus de onze ans à la tête du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.

Tous les amis de votre pays ont conscience du rôle historique que vous avez joué pour rendre son rang à la Grande-Bretagne.

Dans tous les domaines où elle s'est exercée, votre politique, qui s'inscrivait dans la plus grande tradition du parti conservateur britannique, laissera une marque profonde.

Quoi qu'il advienne, les valeurs de liberté et de responsabilité, pour les hommes comme pour les nations, demeureront une source permanente d'inspiration.

Je vous prie, Madame le Premier Ministre, de bien vouloir croire à l'expression de ma très haute considération et de mes

très respectueux hommages, ainsi que de mon très  
fidèle & cordial souvenir.

Madame Margaret THATCHER  
Premier Ministre du Royaume-Uni

*Mina*

Ce ~~Pres~~



Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
London SW1A 2AH

22 November 1990

Dear Charles,

Message to the Prime Minister from M. Chirac

I enclose a faxed message from M. Chirac to the Prime Minister which was forwarded by our Embassy in Paris this morning. I also enclose an unofficial translation which we have done.

We should of course be happy to forward any reply.

Yours ever,

*Richard Gozney*

(R H T Gozney)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

*clms*

MESSAGE FROM THE TAOISEACH, MR CHARLES J HAUGHEY TD

TO THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON MRS MARGARET THATCHER MP

As your historic term as Prime Minister comes to an end I would like to convey to you my congratulations on your long tenure of office and my best wishes for the future.

I greatly valued the many useful conversations we had and the co-operation we were able to achieve in many areas of Anglo-Irish relations. I recall too our work together in the Councils of the European Community and in international affairs at a time of great change.

I believe that our first meetings in 1980 commenced a process of placing relations between our two countries on a new plane which can lead to the establishment of a framework reflecting the totality of relationships within these islands.

With sincere good wishes.

22 November 1990

NOT SENT. SEE NOTE  
BELOW.

CHARLES

Does this letter  
outtake the PM's letter  
of 22.11, below?

T  
✓  
ier please T.

C



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

22 November 1990

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Roger Maitland*

The Hon. Jim Bolger, M.P.



THE PRIME MINISTER

Copenhagen, November 22, 1990

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom  
London

*Dear Margaret,*

I highly appreciate that you found time on such an extraordinary and busy day to inform me of your decision. I certainly return your thanks for our good co-operation and friendship. We have indeed been colleagues during a time of great changes from which we shall all benefit in the future.

While assuring you that I will continue the good co-operation with your successor, I would like to add my very warmest wishes for you personally and look forward to seeing you again.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Paul Schmitter*

Prime Minister of Denmark





THE PRIME MINISTER

Copenhagen, November 22, 1990

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom  
London

Dear Margaret,

I highly appreciate that you found time on such an extraordinary and busy day to inform me of your decision. I certainly return your thanks for our good co-operation and friendship. We have indeed been colleagues during a time of great changes from which we shall all benefit in the future.

While assuring you that I will continue the good co-operation with your successor, I would like to add my very warmest wishes for you personally and look forward to seeing you again.

Yours sincerely

Paul Schmitter

Prime Minister of Denmark

ROME, November 22, 1990

Dear Margaret,

Mila and I are deeply saddened by your resignation. You have been an inspiring leader, a loyal ally and a delightful friend.

I am proud to have had the occasion to know you and to have been associated with you. You have brought honour to the United Kingdom and wisdom to international deliberations.

With affectionate best wishes.

(signed)

Brian

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, FRS, MP  
Prime Minister and  
First Lord of the Treasury  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON



6, CONVENT PLACE,

THE CHIEF MINISTER.

GIBRALTAR.

22 November 1990

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher FRS MP  
10 Downing Street  
London

*Dear Mrs Thatcher,*

Your decision to resign as Prime Minister has caught us here in Gibraltar by surprise and I felt that I should write to you immediately, on behalf of my Government and the people, to thank you for the forthright stand which you have taken over the years in defence of the right of the Gibraltarians to self-determination. Indeed, you have always been a source of great reassurance and you have never hesitated to express your view clearly even when you have been speaking on Spanish soil.

In wishing you well for the future, I want to convey to you the warmth of feeling that still exists here towards you and the high regard in which you are held among the many sectors of our small community.

*Yours truly,  
Joe Brown*



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 November 1990

*Dear Charles,*

Message to the Prime Minister from the  
Chief Minister of Gibraltar

/ I enclose a faxed copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from the Chief Minister of Gibraltar. We shall forward the original when it arrives.

*Yours ever,*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Richard H T Gozney', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

(R H T Gozney)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street



C. Cuellar (MS)

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Jean Seveling - General,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have always shown me. My admiration for your strength of purpose and commitment to the highest standards in international relations knows no bounds. I am sad that we shall no longer be able to work together on finding solutions to the problems facing the United Nations. But you will always have my fullest confidence and trust, and I send you my warmest gratitude and good wishes.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Javier Perez de Cuellar*

His Excellency Senor Javier Perez de Cuellar

MRG



Slw  
cc fco

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Jean B. President,

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

James Callaghan

His Excellency The Honourable Dr. Quett Masire, J.P., M.P.

mlm



SLH

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Michael Manley*

The Rt. Hon. Michael Manley, M.P.

*SLH*



Slw  
cc Fco

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely,*

*Margaret Thatcher*

The Hon. Dr. Eddie Fenech Adami

MRM





C: Zemin (M)

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Your Excellency.

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I am glad that we have been able to work together to improve the relations between the United Kingdom and China, and to ensure the continued success and prosperity of Hong Kong and its people. I send you my best wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

*Baroness Thatcher*

His Excellency Mr Jiang Zemin

MEM



SLH  
cc FLO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Rajawanshakar*

His Excellency Mr. Steingrimur Hermannsson

MBH



SUM  
cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President:*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Rajiv Gandhi*

His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda

*HR*



slw  
cfo

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Dear Mr. President:

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Raymond Stobart

His Excellency President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

mlw



Slw  
cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Your Majesty,

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah

MRM



C:\FOREIGN\KHALIFA

SRW

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Your Highness.

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great cooperation and friendship which you have shown me and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries. In particular I am sure that he will continue Britain's role in helping to defend Saudi Arabia and its neighbours against Iraq's aggression, and our strong support for full implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

*Raymond Staiti*

His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.

MB7



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Jean B. President.*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Rajiv Gandhi*

His Excellency Nqwazi Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda, G.C.B.

*MR*

C:\FOREIGN\MESSAGE  
SLM.



cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Your Majesty,*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

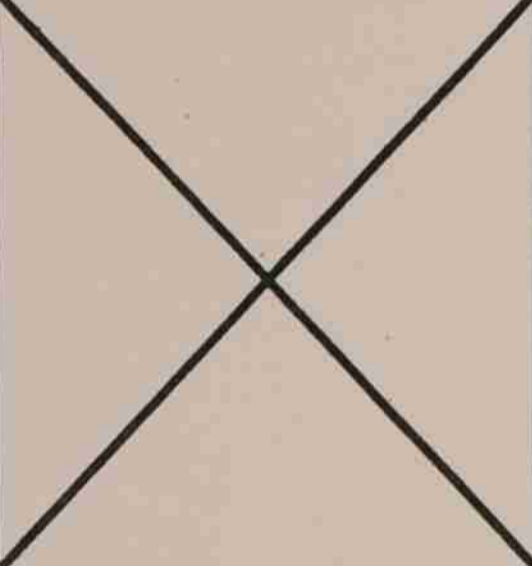
*Margaret Thatcher*

His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal, G.C.B.

MGT



# *A* The National Archives

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PRIME MINISTER

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After whatever statement you want to make at the beginning of Cabinet, the Lord Chancellor proposes to pay a brief tribute to you on behalf of the Cabinet as a whole.

R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

22 November 1990

FILE KK (1)

PRIME MINISTER

Henry Kissinger telephoned me in a very emotional state about your decision to resign. It was worse than a death in the family. You were one of the great figures of modern times and nobody outside Britain - indeed nobody outside Westminster - could understand how your fellow Conservatives could have done this. He and Nancy send you their affectionate regards. They have a house in the woods, which Peter Carrington had stayed in. If you could like to spend some time there to relax they would love you to have it. I said I would pass this on.

CAP

C.D.P.

22 November 1990

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

24 November 1990

**ANGLO-SOVIET RELATIONS**

I enclose a copy of Mr. Gorbachev's message to the Prime Minister, which you will see is unusually warm and friendly. Among other things it is the first time, I think, that Mr. Gorbachev has addressed the Prime Minister as "Margaret".

In handing it over, the Soviet Ambassador said there had been consternation in Moscow at the turn of events leading to the Prime Minister's resignation. Gorbachev had sent Shevardnadze out of a high level meeting in the Kremlin to telephone him, to find out what on earth was going on and how such a thing could be conceivable. The Ambassador said that he had indeed found it very hard to explain. Indeed, there was a certain irony. Five years ago they had party coups in the Soviet Union and elections in Britain. Now it seemed to be the other way round.

C. D. POWELL

J. S. Wall, Esq., L.V.O.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL

*Site 116  
bc. PC.  
c/powell/wall*



SL-07

CCF26

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 November 1990

*Dear Mikhail Sergeevich,*

I was most grateful to receive your warm and generous message. I remember every one of our meetings, from your visit to Chequers in December 1984 through to our most recent encounter in Paris for their intense interest and their practical results. I believe that together we really did contribute to changing our world, and your own contribution to that has been outstanding. I share your hope that we can continue to meet on future occasions.

Meanwhile, Denis joins me in sending you and Raisa Maximovna our warmest regards.

*Yours sincerely*

*Nargis Shahba*

His Excellency Mr. M. S. Gorbachev

*8*

PRIME MINISTER

---

I attach a very warm message from President Gorbachev which reflects the great value which he puts on his relations with you, tracing the start of his international activities back to his meeting with you in December 1984. You will also notice that he addresses you as "Dear Margaret".

I attach a draft reply for your signature.

C D P

C. D. POWELL

23 November 1990

c:\foreign\gorb (slh)

Дорогая Маргарет,

только что узнал о Вашем решении покинуть пост лидера партии и Премьер-Министра Великобритании.

С чувством большой теплоты и глубокого удовлетворения я вспоминаю все наши деловые беседы, которые сыграли столь большую роль в развитии отношений между Советским Союзом и Великобританией. Я высоко ценю сложившиеся между нами отношения взаимопонимания по многим вопросам. Для меня символично и то, что моя международная деятельность практически началась с бесед, состоявшихся у нас еще в 1984 году.

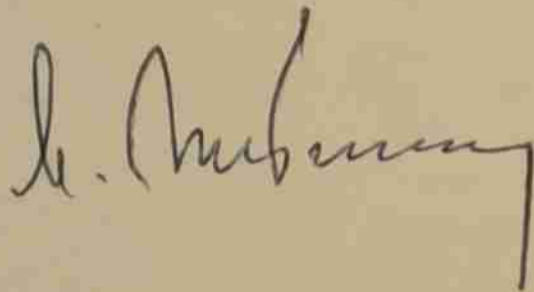
Каждому политическому деятелю современность и будущее дают свои оценки. У меня нет сомнений, что в историю Великобритании, мирового сообщества Вы внесли огромный вклад как политик.

Надеюсь на продолжение наших дружеских встреч.

Раиса Максимовна присоединяется ко всем моим добрым словам в Ваш адрес.

Передаем теплые приветы Денису.

С уважением



М. ГОРБАЧЕВ

22 ноября 1990 года

Дорогая Маргарет,

Только что узнал о Вашем решении покинуть пост лидера партии и премьер-министра Великобритании.

С чувством большой теплоты и глубокого удовлетворения я вспоминаю все наши деловые беседы, которые сыграли столь большую роль в развитии отношений между Советским Союзом и Великобританией. Я высоко ценю сложившиеся между нами отношения взаимопонимания по многим вопросам. Для меня символично и то, что моя международная деятельность практически началась с бесед, состоявшихся у нас еще в 1984 году.

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Раиса Максимовна присоединяется ко всем моим добрым словам в Ваш адрес.

Передаем теплые приветы Денису.

С уважением,

М.Горбачев

22 ноября 1990 года



The Rt.Hon. Mrs.Margaret Thatcher, MP  
Prime-Minister  
10, Downing Str.  
London

Dear Margaret,

I have just learned of your decision to leave the post of the leader of the Conservative party and Prime-Minister of Great Britain.

It is with the feeling of great warmth and deep satisfaction that I recall all our business-like talks that played such a great role in the development of the relations between the Soviet Union and Great Britain. I highly appreciate the mutual understanding on many issues that has developed between us. It is also symbolic for me that my international activities had in practice started with our conversations as far back as 1984.

Every politician is appraised both in his own time and by the future. I have no doubts that as a political leader you have made an enormous contribution both into the history of Great Britain and the world community at large.

I hope for the continuation of our friendly meetings.

Raisa Maximovna joins me in all heartfelt greetings to you.

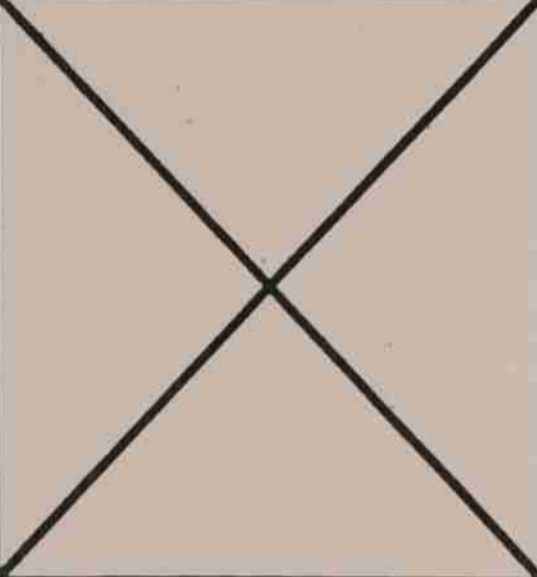
Our warmest regards to Denis.

Yours respectfully,

M. Gorbachev

22 November 1990

**A** The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES ..... <i>PREM 19</i> ..... PIECE/ITEM ..... <i>3213</i> ..... (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great cooperation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

I was glad we were able to have a final meeting in Paris, and send you my very best wishes for the success of the great reforms which you are carrying through. *We shall continue to watch your success with the greatest possible interest.*

Denis joins me in sending you and Raisa Maximovna our warm regards and good wishes.

*Yours sincerely*

*Rajaw Shalita*

His Excellency Mr M S Gorbachev

*File Kw  
cfr*



*File M  
also*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Your Majesty,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Majesty King Hassan II



Ali SA  
CWS

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr President,*

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I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Rajiv Gandhi*

His Excellency Mr. Vaclav Havel



*File M  
CFW*

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecki



*Cole M*  
*CFW*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President:*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Jayant Lalita*

His Excellency Mr. Turgut Ozal





*Cite SM  
afw*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Norayana Dalta*

The Hon. F. W. de Klerk, D.M.S.



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Your Highness.*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great cooperation and friendship which you have shown me and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries. In particular I am sure that he will continue Britain's strong support for full implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, and for the restoration of the legitimate government of Kuwait. *I shall certainly continue*

With warm regards,

*to make my views known.*

*Yours sincerely*  
*Jayant Shah*

His Highness Shaikh Jabir Al Ahmad Al Sabah GCMG

*Ali kw*  
*also*



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Su*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great cooperation and friendship which you have shown me and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries. In particular I am sure that he will continue Britain's role in helping to defend Saudi Arabia and its neighbours against Iraq's aggression, and our strong support for full implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

With warm regards,

*I shall continue to give  
my strong support to our common purpose  
in the Gulf.*

*Yours sincerely*

King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud GCMG

*Fayaz Shalita*

*Ali kw  
astro*



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Jayant Shakti*

His Excellency General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, C.F.R., G.C.B.



File #11  
afw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Jayant Shalita

His Excellency Mr. Yitzhak Shamir



*Ali Kw  
also*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Your Majesty,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great cooperation and friendship which you have shown me and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries. In particular I am sure that he will continue Britain's role in helping to defend Saudi Arabia and its neighbours against Iraq's aggression, and our strong support for full implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said GCB GCMG GCVO



late kw  
c/w

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Your Highness.

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

*James Callaghan*

His Highness Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan GCMG GCB



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Your Highness.*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Khalifa bin Hamad*

His Highness Shaikh Khalifah Bin Hamad Al Thani GCB GCMG

*cite kw*  
*ctro*





*Cite Kw  
afw*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Najam Shaker*

His Highness Shaikh Maktoum bin Rashid bin Said Al Maktoum KCMG



*File M*  
*afw*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

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I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

I am so sorry that we had to suggest you should postpone your visit, but I think it is for the best.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*James Callaghan*

His Excellency Senor Don Felipe Gonzalez Marquez



*Ali M  
CFW*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Maya Mitcheva*

His Excellency Mr. George Vassiliou



late M  
afw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*James Callaghan*

His Excellency Dr. Jozsef Antall



file M  
CFO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Roger M. Thatcher*

Mr. Harri Hermanni Holkeri



*cite*  
*afro*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr President,*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Rajiv Gandhi*

His Excellency The Honourable Daniel T. arap Moi, C.G.H., M.P.



late M  
also

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Jean Charulson*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
 *Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Dr. Franz Vranitzky



late M  
atw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Mr. Ingvar Carlsson





*Cite M  
also*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

Her Excellency Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland



*Cite SA  
ufo*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President-*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Professor Arnold Koller



file *SM*  
*utw*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Jean R. President,*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*Raymond Barber*

His Excellency Lic Carlos Salinas de Gortari



ate M  
ukw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Rayan Shalita*

His Excellency Mr. Toshiki Kaifu, K.B.E.



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*  
*James Callaghan*

His Excellency President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak

*File 8/11*  
*11/10*



*File M  
WFW*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

Onorerole Giulio Andreotti



*File 81  
CFW*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Charlie,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

I should like to thank you for the great co-operation and friendship which you have shown me during our time together in office, during which so much has been achieved, and I send you my warmest good wishes for the future. I know that my successor will continue to attach the highest importance to the relations between our countries.

With warm regards,

*Yours ever  
Margaret*

Mr. Charles J. Haughey, T.D.



*file* *SM*  
*CFW*

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Poul,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours ever*  
*Margaret*

His Excellency Mr. Poul Schlüter





Ali  
S  
CFO

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

Dear Ruud.

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

Yours ever  
Margaret

His Excellency Dr. Ruud F. M. Lubbers



*File SP  
UPW*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Helmut:*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours  
Margaret*

His Excellency Dr. Helmut Kohl



File  
JH  
ufw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Mr. President,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*James Hacker*

His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, G.C.B.



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal, G.C.B.



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Norfolk*

His Excellency Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed

*Ali M  
WFO*



File M  
also

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Jean Bo*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours ever*  
*Rajaram*

The Hon. R. J. L. Hawke, A.C., M.P.



*File M  
1990*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Brian,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours  
Raymond*

The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney



Ali M  
afw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

*Dear Prime Minister,*

By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Monsieur Jacques Santer





*Ali M  
afro*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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By the time you receive this message, you will probably already have heard this morning's announcement from 10 Downing Street of my decision to make way for a successor, and to resign as Prime Minister as soon as the Parliamentary Party has completed the necessary procedures for electing a new leader. I shall of course remain in charge of the Government until my successor has been appointed.

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Professor Anibal Cavaco Silva



*Ali M  
also*

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

*Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Constantinos Mitsotakis



Ali M  
also

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 November 1990

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With warm regards,

Yours sincerely  
Rajaram Shetty

His Excellency De Heer Wilfried Martens

The Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher FRS MP has informed The Queen that she does not intend to contest the second ballot of the election for leadership of the Conservative Party and intends to resign as Prime Minister as soon as a new leader of the Conservative Party has been elected. The Prime Minister will seek an Audience of The Queen later this morning to convey her decision formally.

The Prime Minister has issued the following statement:

"Having consulted widely among colleagues, I have concluded that the unity of the Party and the prospects of victory in a General Election would be better served if I stood down to enable Cabinet colleagues to enter the ballot for the leadership. I should like to thank all those in Cabinet and outside who have given me such dedicated support".

22 November 1990

PERSONAL

*File*

Ref. A090/2785

MR TURNBULL

\_\_\_\_\_  
c Mr Dilling

You asked for a note responding to the argument that a change of Prime Minister should be ratified immediately by a --- General Election. A draft is attached, which has been approved by Sir Robin Butler.

*Sonia Phippard*

MISS S C PHIPPARD

20 November 1990

PERSONAL

In a General Election the electorate votes on a constituency basis for a candidate to represent it as its Member of Parliament in the House of Commons. By its votes the electorate in the country as a whole elects a House of Commons. It does not elect a Government; it does not elect a Prime Minister; it does not elect individual Minister.

The Sovereign then has the duty of finding a Prime Minister who can form a Government which commands a majority in the House of Commons. The leader of the party returning the largest number of Members at a General Election will normally be appointed Prime Minister and invited by the Sovereign to form a Government. Provided that the Government retains the confidence of the House of Commons and can command a majority in the House, the question of the Government resigning, of Parliament being dissolved and a General Election resulting, does not arise unless the Prime Minister recommends a dissolution to the Sovereign.

If a Prime Minister died or offered a personal resignation, the Sovereign would wait until a new leader had been chosen by the Party and invite him or her to form a Government. A change of Prime Minister during the course of a Parliament does not curtail a Government's right to govern or call its electoral legitimacy into question. It did not do so when Mr Macmillan succeeded Sir Anthony Eden, when Lord Home succeeded Mr Macmillan, or when Mr Callaghan succeeded Mr Wilson. This is commonsense especially when as now the governing party has a large overall majority in the House of Commons. It would be a nonsense to identify a Government and its right to govern solely with the person who led it at the time of the previous General Election. To do so would mean that the death in office of a Prime Minister or resignation on health grounds automatically precipitated a General Election.

It would of course be open to the Opposition to table a motion of "no confidence" in the Government following such a change and the Government would stand or fall by the result.

RESIGNATION ACTION PLAN: 22 NOVEMBER 1990

0730 Prime Minister conveys her decision to AT and PHM  
0735 Prime Minister clears press statement  
0740 AT informs Palace, agrees statement and time for  
Audience  
0740 PHM tells Mr. Hurd and Mr. Major of her decision  
0745 AT warns Treasury and Bank  
0830-0900 Questions briefing  
0900 Cabinet  
Prime Minister informs Cabinet of her decision  
Telephone messages from Private Office to inform  
- Mr. Speaker  
- Mr. Kinnoek  
- Mr. Ashdown  
- Mr. Molyneaux  
shortly before statement issued  
Political office informs Mr. Onslow  
0930c Statement issued  
1015 Cabinet concludes  
1015 Sign personal messages to President Bush,  
President Gorbachev, EC and G7 leaders plus Gulf  
leaders  
1030-1240 Speechwriting  
[1200 Nominations close]  
1235 Depart for Audience  
1245 Audience  
1300 Return to No. 10.