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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 180A/82

THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

General M. Zia-ul-Haq

ISLAMABAD

30 Ziq'a'd 1402 A.H.

19 September 1982

Her Excellency
The Rt. Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,
London.

Dear Madam Prime Minister,

I thank Your Excellency for your kind letter of August 24, 1982, regarding the suitability for the Pakistan Navy of Type-21 frigates manufactured by Vosper Thornycroft Limited.

The Pakistan Navy greatly values its traditional associations with the Royal Navy and holds in high regard the capability of the British ship-building industry. It is at present engaged in the evaluation of several offers for the supply of frigates, including the offer from Vosper Thornycroft. While the

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- 2 -

Pakistan Navy would undoubtedly consider the performance capabilities of the various craft available, the respective costs and financial conditions would also feature significantly in the evaluation. Our preference would be for a British vessel and it is our hope that the price and other terms of the package offered by Vosper Thornycroft will be the most favourable.

Your steadfast espousal of our legitimate need to acquire a modest defensive capability has been not only characteristically perceptive but also admirably courageous.

May I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate our appreciation of your Government's position on the qualitative change of historic import which has taken place in the security environment of our region and convey our gratitude for the support extended to Pakistan by the United Kingdom.

With profound regards,

Yours sincerely,
M. Zia-ul-Haq

General
(M. Zia-ul-Haq)