

OPS

TOP COPY WHH
PM

4-22-82
JG
CLEAR

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 7158/82

ZCZC MAG036
TOO MTE24
DE MTE 05384 2211906
O 091046Z AUG 82
FM THE WHITE HOUSE
TO CABINET OFFICE LONDON
ZEM
SECRET VIA CABINET OFFICE CHANNELS WH05384

I have discussed
with the fco (Stepher
Layport). No further
action is needed

Subject copy on:
1) Soviet Union, Credit
Terms, Pt 2.
1574
2) Middle East, Situation,
Pt 10
Soviet Union: Pipeline, Pt 2

DEAR MARGARET:

I MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR JULY 22 LETTER ON THE SUBJECT OF JOHN BROWN ENGINEERING AND THE CONSTRUCTIVE FRAMEWORK IN WHICH YOU HAVE PLACED OUR DIFFERENCES CONCERNING THE SANCTIONS ISSUE. I AM IN THOROUGH AGREEMENT WITH YOU THAT ON THE BROADER SECURITY CONCERNS POSED BY SOVIET BEHAVIOR AND THE CRISIS IN POLAND WE THINK ALIKE. IN CASES WHERE WE DO DISAGREE, I BELIEVE THAT YOUR LETTER EXEMPLIFIES THE TONE AND SPIRIT WHICH OUGHT TO GUIDE U.S.-U.K. RELATIONS.

LET ME ADD HOW MUCH I ALSO APPRECIATED YOUR JULY 22 LETTER AND THE INFORMATION YOU SHARED WITH ME ON YOUR TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN. THESE VIEWS PROVIDED TIMELY BACKGROUND FOR MY OWN MEETING LAST WEEK WITH EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KAMAL BASSAM ALI, AND WITH HIS ISRAELI COUNTERPART, FOREIGN MINISTER YITZHAK SHARIR, OF COURSE.

Middle East
Pt 2

THE TALKS WITH ALI WERE USEFUL, ALTHOUGH THE EGYPTIANS HAVE HARDENED THEIR POSITION TOWARD ACCEPTING PLO FIGHTERS. ALI'S PRESENTATION WAS SIMILAR TO HIS EXCHANGE WITH FRANCIS FYM, AS HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO SEIZE THIS MOMENT TO RESOLVE THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN ALL ITS ASPECTS. WHILE MUCH OF THE U.S. AND EGYPTIAN THINKING ON THE MIDDLE EAST IS CONGRUENT, WE DO DISAGREE WITH ALI'S VIEW THAT THE SOLUTION TO WEST BANK SHOULD BE EXPLICITLY LINKED TO THE OVERALL PALESTINIAN PROBLEM.

AS FOR THE MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SHARIR, I MADE CLEAR TO HIM HOW STRONGLY WE FEEL ABOUT THE DISCRIMINATE AND UNDISCRIMINATE ISRAELI ATTACKS ON WEST BANK. I ALSO EMPHASIZED OUR OPPOSITION TO ISRAELI MILITARY TACTICS INVOLVING THE CUT-OFF OF FOOD, WATER, ELECTRICITY AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES. SHARIR REITERATED THE ISRAELI POSITION THAT SUCH TACTICS WERE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ENSURE PLO WITHDRAWAL. I RESPONDED THAT SUCH ACTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONTINUING LEVELS OF EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE, WERE MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR PHIL HADID TO EXTRACT THE PLO BY DIPLOMATIC MEANS AND THAT THIS COULD HAVE THE GRAVEST POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL.

CLEARLY THE ROAD AHEAD REMAINS FRAUGHT WITH DANGER, BUT

I SEE NO ALTERNATIVE TO WORKING AS HARD AS WE CAN TO BRING
ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PLO FROM LEBANON, AS WELL AS ALL
OTHER FOREIGN FORCES, AND A RETURN TO CONDITIONS WHICH WILL
PERMIT THE LEBANESE TO FUNCTION AS AN INDEPENDENT PEOPLE AND
GOVERNMENT.

SINCERELY,

RON

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
MARGARET THATCHER
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON
W464
E5384

NNNN

DE CAD QSL 091646Z AT 19577 Z IDS

OPS

TOP COPY WHH
PM

4-2-82
JY CLERK

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE**

SERIAL No. 7158/82

ZCZC MAG 036
TOO MTE 24
DE WTE 25384 2211906
O 091846Z AUG 82
FM THE WHITE HOUSE
TO CABINET OFFICE LONDON
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action is needed

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Terms, Pt 2.
1574
2) Middle East, Situation
Pt 10
Soviet Union: Pipeline, Pt 2

SECRET VIA CABINET OFFICE CHANNELS WH 5384

DEAR MARGARET:

I MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR JULY 29 LETTER ON THE SUBJECT OF JOHN KING ENGINEERING AND THE CONSTRUCTIVE FRAMEWORK IN WHICH YOU HAVE PLACED OUR DIFFERENCES CONCERNING THE SANCTIONING ISSUE. I AM IN THOROUGH AGREEMENT WITH YOU THAT ON THE BROADER SECURITY CONCERNS POSED BY SOVIET BEHAVIOR AND THE CRISIS IN POLAND WE THINK ALIKE. IN CASES WHERE WE DO DISAGREE, I BELIEVE THAT YOUR LETTER EXEMPLIFIES THE TONE AND SPIRIT WHICH OUGHT TO GUIDE U.S.-U.K. RELATIONS.

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Middle East
Pt 2

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