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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 28, 1981

Dear Prime Minister:

The Veterans of the Office of Strategic Services have made a wonderful choice in awarding you the William J. Donovan Medal.

By your forthright leadership on defense questions, you have manifested that concern for world security which was a hallmark of General Donovan and his compatriots.

The rights and liberties of individuals in our two nations and among freedom-loving peoples around the globe can be maintained only by a vigilant and vigorous defense policy. We Americans deeply admire Britain's strong contribution and your personal commitment to protecting freedom everywhere.

Just as our two great peoples, led by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt and supported by such heroic figures as General Donovan, overcame threats to freedom and human decency during World War II, we will meet the challenges posed during the last decades of the twentieth century and beyond. The talks we have just completed here in Washington left me in no doubt about our joint determination and capacity to do so.

Nancy joins me in sending you our most sincere congratulations as you receive this well-deserved honor. We hope you have a safe and restful flight home this evening.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher
Veterans of the O.S.S. Dinner
The Waldorf-Astoria
New York, New York