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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 196 AB 82

subject copy filed on: -

Netherlands: Relations: Sept 1980.

CONFIDENTIAL

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REC. 30229 -71
21 OCT 1982
copy taken
<i>21.10</i>

GRS 140  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FM FOO 191645Z OCT 82  
TO ROUTINE THE HAGUE  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 130 OF 19 OCTOBER

THE RESIGNATION OF THE NETHERLANDS PRIME MINISTER  
1. WHEN MR VAN AGT STEPS DOWN PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING  
MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER:

BEGINS

DEAR DRIES

I WAS VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR RESIGNATION. WE SHALL MISS YOU  
VERY MUCH IN OUR EUROPEAN MEETINGS. I WOULD NOT WISH YOUR  
DEPARTURE FROM OFFICE AFTER ELEVEN YEARS AS A MINISTER TO PASS  
WITHOUT SAYING HOW MUCH I HAVE VALUED YOUR FRIENDSHIP,  
COOPERATION AND WISE COUNSEL. WARM GOOD WISHES TO YOU AND YOUR  
FAMILY.

ENDS

MESSAGE FOR THE NEW PRIME MINISTER:

BEGINS

DEAR PRIME MINISTER

I SEND YOU MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON ASSUMING THE  
PREMIERSHIP OF THE NETHERLANDS. I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO  
MEETING YOU AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, AS WELL AS TO WORKING WITH  
YOU IN FUTURE. WARM REGARDS,  
MARGARET THATCHER.

ENDS

PM:

LIMITED  
WED  
NEWS D  
PS  
PS MR HURD  
PS HODI BELSTEAD  
PS PUS  
SIR J. BULLARD

MR EVANS  
MR GOODISON

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