

SUBJECT.

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 7229 - 1 T 25 3/81

GRS 231-
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 161558Z FEB 81
TO PRIORITY JEDDA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 89 OF 16 FEBRUARY
AND TO PRIORITY MUSCAT, DUBAI
INFO ABU DHABI

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MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER ON GULF CO-OPERATION

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRINCE FAHAD, THE SULTAN OF OMAN AND SHAIKH RASHID, FOLLOWING THE OUTCOME OF THE GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN RIYADH ON 4 FEBRUARY. SIMILAR BUT SEPARATE MESSAGES ARE BEING SENT TO SHAIKH ZAID, TO THE AMIR OF QATAR AND TO THE PRIME MINISTERS OF KUWAIT AND BAHRAIN.

I WAS VERY PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE MEETING OF GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN RIYADH ON 4 FEBRUARY. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARAB GULF CO-OPERATION COUNCIL IS THE CULMINATION OF DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH I KNOW THAT YOUR HIGHNESS (YOUR MAJESTY) HAS TAKEN A CLOSE INTEREST. I AM CONFIDENT THAT IT WILL PLAY A VALUABLE ROLE IN CONFRONTING THE DANGERS TO WHICH THE GULF REGION HAS BEEN EXPOSED.

THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THE GULF IS OF VITAL INTEREST TO US ALL. I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT WITH YOUR HIGHNESS (YOUR MAJESTY) DURING MY VISIT IN APRIL AND TO REVIEWING WITH YOU APPROPRIATE WAYS IN WHICH BRITAIN MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAINTENANCE OF STABILITY. MEANWHILE, PLEASE ACCEPT MY VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CO-OPERATION COUNCIL.

2. GRATEFUL YOU HAVE MESSAGE DELIVERED. THERE WILL BE NO (NO) SIGNED COPY.

CARRINGTON

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

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PCD
PLANNING STAFF
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PS/LPS
PS/MR HURD
PS/PUS
SIR J GRAHAM
MR J C MOBERLY

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