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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 2, 1981

De Masere Prine Minister

I have read the initial news reports of your speech to the Pilgrims' Dinner on January 29, and I wanted to convey my thanks and good wishes for your kind words.

You are indeed right that we share a very special concern for democracy and for liberty. That is the essence of the special relationship between our two countries, and it is similarly an excellent basis for inaugurating an extended period of cooperation and close consultation between your government and my administration.

It is with greatest anticipation that I look forward to your arrival here and to the opportunity for extensive discussions on the broad range of world issues with which we must deal in partnership.

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The Right Honorable Margaret Thatcher, M.P. Prime Minister London