



PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T163/79<sup>r</sup>

PS Subject copy:  
Yemen, Aug 79,  
Visit by the PM of  
the Yemen Arab Republic  
Mr Abdul Aziz Abdul  
Ghani.

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

6 December 1979

I was most distressed to learn that you had been prevented from returning to Sana'a on 30 November at the end of your visit to Britain as a guest of Her Majesty's Government because of British Midland Airways' injunction on the Yemenia aircraft.

This was a most embarrassing development which I wholeheartedly deplore. I must apologise most profoundly to you for the embarrassment and inconvenience which you and your family and all the members of your party suffered as a result of British Midland Airways' action.

It is my sincere hope that this unfortunate incident will not affect the excellent relations between our two countries, and in particular that the goodwill which your visit has generated will not be lost. Both our governments must build on the positive results of your visit to strengthen our friendship still further and Her Majesty's Government certainly intend to work sincerely to achieve this objective.

His Excellency Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani.