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Subject file  
Econ PSI - Tokyo Summit  
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PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 108/79T

Dear Prime Minister:

You will recall that at Tokyo we decided to intensify our efforts to overcome hunger in the developing nations. Our declaration stressed increased bilateral and multi-lateral aid to agricultural research. Our delegations at the U.N. Conference on Science and Technology for Development reaffirmed these commitments.

The World Bank has called my attention to a forthcoming opportunity to fulfill these pledges. The Bank's Chairman of the Consultative Group in International Agricultural Research has sent to all members his 1979 report including a proposed five-year plan for expanding the scope and intensifying the activities of the International Agricultural Research Centers. The plan would increase the resources made available to these highly successful research and training programs over the next five years by about 10 per cent annually in real terms. This is a somewhat lower rate of growth in the Consultative Group's budget than was achieved in the past five years. While we have not yet fixed the levels of future U.S. contributions, my advisers believe the proposed pace of growth is realistic.

I think the developing nations will attach great importance to our action on this matter when the Consultative Group meets October 31, as evidence of the Economic Summit Governments' willingness to fulfill their Tokyo commitments. Positive action by our Governments also will encourage greater support by other countries able to contribute to the International Agricultural Research System. This would mark a major advance in international cooperation to end world hunger.

Sincerely,

The Hon. Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister

10 Downing Street,  
London, SW1

/s/ Jimmy Carter

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