

OPS

PRIME MINISTER'S

Prime Minister

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~~*****~~ ZZ WTE24 PERSONAL MESSAGE

DE WTE 4174 1291404

Z 091341Z MAY 79 SERIAL No. T3/79T.

FM THE WHITE HOUSE

TO PRIME MINISTER THATCHER.

ZEM

SECRET VIA CABINET OFFICE CHANNELS WH91075

I shall ask FCO and MOD for advice on a reply.

MAY 9, 1979

*GM
9/5*

TO: THE RIGHT HONORABLE MARGARET THATCHER
10, DOWNING STREET
LONDON

DEAR MADAM PRIME MINISTER:

THIS AFTERNOON AT 3:00 P.M., WASHINGTON TIME, WE WILL ANNOUNCE THAT WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON ALL THE SIGNIFICANT OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN THE SALT II TREATY. DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, THE FINAL DETAILS OF THE TREATY WILL BE COMPLETED IN GENEVA. WE ALSO EXPECT TO ANNOUNCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE THE TIME AND PLACE OF MY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BREZHNEV, AT WHICH THE SALT II TREATY WILL BE SIGNED.

I WANTED YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IN ADVANCE, BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE ALLIANCE OF THE SALT II AGREEMENT, AND BECAUSE OF OUR CLOSE COLLABORATION ON STRATEGIC AND EAST - WEST ISSUES.

I AM CONVINCED THAT THIS IS A GOOD AGREEMENT, WHICH FULLY PROTECTS BOTH U.S. AND ALLIED INTERESTS. I WILL ENSURE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT RECEIVES DETAILS ON THE MOST RECENT POINTS OF AGREEMENT, AS WELL AS THE FULL TEXT OF THE TREATY AS SOON AS IT IS COMPLETED. IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH YOU -- AND WITH THE FULL ALLIANCE -- BOTH ON THE TREATY AND ON STATEMENTS WE WILL MAKE AT THE TIME IT IS SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE.

IT WILL BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR ME TO HAVE YOUR OWN PERSONAL VIEWS ON THE SALT II TREATY. AS YOU KNOW, THE POSITION TAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT DURING THE SENATE DEBATE, AND ANY SUPPORT YOU CAN GIVE TO THE TREATY WILL BE OF GREAT HELP IN ENSURING ITS RATIFICATION.

I AM VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN TOKYO.

WITH BEST REGARDS,

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SINCERELY,
JIMMY CARTER