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OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
TOKYO

Anglo Japanese Relations

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 42c/82

Translation

March 9, 1982

Dear Prime Minister,

It gives me great pleasure to send this letter through Mr. Masumi Esaki, an old friend and most trusted colleague in the Liberal Democratic Party. Mr. Esaki is of highest stature in the Party and has served as Minister of International Trade and Industry, Minister for Home Affairs and Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, Minister of State and Director General of the Defence Agency as well as Prime Minister ad interim in the Ohira Cabinet. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of asking Mr. Esaki to visit the United Kingdom as Special Envoy of the President of the Liberal Democratic Party to exchange views with the distinguished leaders of the British Government and the Parliament on the economic relations between Japan and the United Kingdom.

As you are aware, I have placed the smooth development of external economic relations as one of the primary aims of the new Cabinet. Accordingly, I decided to establish the Ministerial Conference for Economic Measures to expedite the work involved and,

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The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

at the same time, created the Special Committee for International Economic Measures within the Liberal Democratic Party. It is Mr. Esaki that I called upon to serve as chairman of the Committee, and it is with his assistance and efforts that I sought to pursue the examination of various issues concerned by the Party.

As I see the current international economic situation, I am deeply concerned about the increasing protectionist tendencies in some quarters. As I mentioned to you in June last year, the maintenance and strengthening of the multilateral and open trading system not only meet with the interests of our two countries but are indispensable for the peace and prosperity of the Western nations which share the basic political and economic values of liberty and democracy as well as the peace and prosperity of the world as a whole. This recognition was reaffirmed at the Ottawa Summit last year. We must seek, with our further efforts and cooperation, to revitalize the world economy under the free trading system.

I would like to pay my profound tribute to you for the consistent policies, including one to control inflation, which you have been pursuing since taking up your post, and for your resolute stand that the United Kingdom should contribute to the development of the world economy through the maintenance and strengthening of the free trading system. On my part, I am determined to do

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my utmost to further strengthen the cooperative relationship between Japan and the United Kingdom and to work together with you in making positive contributions toward our common goal.

I look forward very much to seeing you at the next Summit Meeting in June and also to welcoming you on the occasion of your planned visit to Japan this autumn. I am convinced that, the relations between our two countries will be further promoted through these closer contacts between us.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend to you my most sincere regards and my best wishes for your continued good health and success.

Yours sincerely,

Zenko Suzuki
Prime Minister of Japan