

SUBJECT

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Copy on: Foreign Pol.  
Feb 77  
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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T30177

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TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON TELEGRAM NUMBER 404 OF 21 FEB 77.

ECONOMIC SUMMIT.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER, WHICH PLEASE DELIVER AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

BEGINS:

DEAR MR PRESIDENT,

VERY MANY THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER OF 12 FEBRUARY ABOUT VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE'S RECENT VISIT HERE - WHICH I GREATLY VALUED - AND ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF A FURTHER SUMMIT MEETING OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE INDUSTRIALISED DEMOCRACIES.

I AM GLAD TO HEAR THAT THE VICE-PRESIDENT FOUND A GENERAL CONSENSUS ON HIS RECENT TRIP THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL, AND THAT IT SHOULD BE HELD IN LONDON IN THE FIRST HALF OF MAY. AS YOU KNOW, I TOO SEE VALUE IN ANOTHER MEETING OF THIS KIND AND AT THIS TIME; AND I WOULD BE HAPPY FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM TO TAKE ON THE MOST COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITIES AS YOU SUGGEST. YOU SUGGESTED THAT THE BEST TIMING MIGHT BE JUST BEFORE THE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING ON 10/11 MAY. THIS IS CERTAINLY ACCEPTABLE TO ME, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST 7-8 MAY. I HOPE THAT THIS WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU.

I NOTE THAT YOU FORESEE PARTICIPATION BY THOSE COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT PUERTO RICO, BUT THAT YOU WOULD WELCOME PARTICIPATION BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. AS YOU SAY, THE NATURE OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION IS SOMETHING WHICH WE AND THE OTHER COMMUNITY COUNTRIES MUST NOW DISCUSS. AS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT, I SHALL NOW SET THIS DISCUSSION IN TRAIN SEMI CLN AND I WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU AGAIN, PROBABLY EARLY NEXT MONTH, WHEN OUR DISCUSSIONS ON THIS POINT HAVE TAKEN PLACE. WE CAN THEN ALSO CONSIDER DETAILED

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QUESTIONS OF



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QUESTIONS OF AGENDA AND PREPARATORY ARRANGEMENTS. I FULLY AGREE WITH YOU ON THE NEED FOR CAREFUL PREPARATION AND I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF 18 FEBRUARY INFORMING ME THAT YOU HAD APPOINTED HENRY OWEN AS YOUR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PREPARATORY WORK. I HAVE ASKED SIR JOHN HUNT TO ACT AS MY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

I ALSO WELCOME ~~WHAT~~ WHAT YOU SAY ABOUT DISCREET POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE FOUR OF US WITH BERLIN RESPONSIBILITIES, AND I HOPE THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO MEET PRIVATELY FOR THIS PURPOSE ON THE EVENING BEFORE THE MAIN MEETING BEGINS. IF THIS WAS AGREEABLE TO YOU, I WOULD SUGGEST TO PRESIDENT GISCARD AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT THAT WE MIGHT START THESE DISCUSSIONS ON THE AFTERNOON OF 6 MAY.

FOR THE TIME BEING, WE SHALL DEFER ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS HERE ABOUT THE PRECISE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING.

I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THIS -- AND MANY OTHER SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO US BOTH -- DURING MY VISIT TO WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH.

YOURS SINCERELY,

JIM CALLAGHAN.

ENDS

OWEN

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ACDD  
PS  
PS/DROWEN  
PS/PAUS  
SIR A DUFF  
MR HIBBERT

MR CORTAZZI  
MR BUTLER  
MR FRETWELL  
MR THOMAS  
MR EDMONDS  
MR MALE  
MR HAYES

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