

cc Memo's + Subject Courtesy Translation

Reference: Sales P43

PRIME MINISTER'S

M e s s a g e

PERSONAL MESSAGE

from

SERIAL No. 124183

Herr Helmut Kohl, Federal Chancellor of the
Federal Republic of Germany

to

Her Excellency The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher,
Her Majesty's Prime Minister and First Lord of
the Treasury

Dear Prime Minister,

as you know, I have on several occasions made considerable personal efforts to bring to a successful conclusion our joint export of tornado aircraft to Greece. In this effort the Federal Government has made several concessions to comply with Greek wishes regarding the financing of the project, concessions greatly in excess of the norm.

However, we have now reached our limit, and I regret that after thorough discussions with the competent Federal Ministers I cannot adopt your proposal of guaranteeing a fixed contractual rate of less than 9 per cent. In the interests of sound export trade I should like to hold to the principle of not granting interest subsidies for the financing of exports.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

sgd. Helmut Kohl