

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T200/83

cc Ops  
Master  
Subject: Commonwealth  
CHGM #7

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TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 2018 OF 30 NOVEMBER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT REAGN ON CHOGM

1. PLEASE DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE PRESIDENT DESCRIBING THE OUTCOME OF CHOGM.

BEGINS: I HAVE JUST SPENT A WEEK IN NEW DELHI AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING. YOU MAY HAVE SEEN THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH WE ISSUED AND I THOUGHT THAT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO HAVE SOME COMMENTS ON THE BACKGROUND TO IT.

WE MEET EVERY TWO YEARS IN DIFFERENT CAPITALS. THIS YEAR IN NEW DELHI I WAS VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE PERVASIVE INFLUENCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT'S PHILOSOPHY. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES TODAY CONSIDER THEMSELVES AS NON-ALIGNED, AND THE LANGUAGE OF THE COMMUNIQUE INEVITABLY REFLECTS THIS.

YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THAT WE ISSUED A DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY. IT IS BY NO MEANS AN IDEAL DOCUMENT BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE EARLIER VERSIONS EXCLAM I HOPE IT WILL CAUSE YOU NO PARTICULAR DIFFICULTY. WE WORKED ON IT DURING OUR WEEKEND IN GOA AND I GOT OUT A LOT OF THE UNSATISFACTORY LANGUAGE. IT IS NOW IN PRETTY GENERAL TERMS AND CONCENTRATES ON THE NEED FOR DIALOGUE. I KNOW THAT YOU SUPPORT CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE - AS I DO - AND WE CAN POINT TO THE FACT THAT IT IS THE SOVIET UNION WHICH IS PREVENTING IT BY WALKING OUT OF THE INF TALKS. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO GAVE GENERAL ENCOURAGEMENT TO PIERRE TRUDEAU'S EFFORTS - BUT WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE HAVE A NUMBER OF DOUBTS ABOUT HIS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. IN PARTICULAR, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT HIS PROPOSAL FOR A CONFERENCE OF THE FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS IS HELPFUL, AT LEAST IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. HE OF COURSE REMAINS VERY KEEN ON HIS INITIATIVE AND VISITED CHINA

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DURING THE MEETING.

AS REGARDS THE DECLARATION ON ECONOMIC ACTION MY PURPOSE WAS TO AVOID A COMMITMENT TO YET ANOTHER MAJOR CONFERENCE AND TO DO NOTHING WHICH WOULD WEAKEN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL MONETARY INSTITUTIONS. I THINK WE ACHIEVED THIS.

OUR DISCUSSIONS OVER GRENADA CAME OUT WELL. AT OUR FIRST MEETING SOME VERY STRONG AND HOSTILE VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED BY AFRICAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES. THE OECS COUNTRIES RESPONDED WELL AND EFFECTIVELY, AND WE SUBSEQUENTLY DEALT WITH THE PASSAGE FOR THE COMMUNIQUE AT SOME LENGTH IN GOA. MY OWN POSITION WAS THAT WE SHOULD NOT GO OVER PAST EVENTS BUT LOOK TO THE FUTURE - AS SUMMED UP IN THE PHRASE FROM THE COMMUNIQUE 'RECONSTRUCTION NOT RECRIMINATION'. THAT IS WHAT I SHALL BE CONTINUING TO EMPHASISE.

THE DISCUSSION ON GRENADA LED US TO CONSIDER IN SOME DEPTH THE PROBLEMS FACING SMALL STATES. THIS TOO IS REFLECTED IN THE COMMUNIQUE. THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL WILL BE UNDERTAKING A STUDY ON HOW BEST TO ASSURE THE INDEPENDENCE AND INTEGRITY OF THOSE SMALL TERRITORIES WHICH CANNOT DEFEND THEMSELVES BUT WHICH WANT TO REMAIN FREE. WE ARE ALSO WORKING ON THIS WITHIN OUR OWN ADMINISTRATION IN LONDON. I AM SURE IT IS SOMETHING WHICH WE MUST ALL THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT, AND WE SHALL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU AS OUR IDEAS DEVELOP.

IN OTHER RESPECTS THE MEETING COVERED FAMILIAR GROUND, WHICH I NEED NOT BOTHER YOU WITH. BUT OLIVER WRIGHT CAN GIVE ANY CLARIFICATION WHICH YOUR PEOPLE OR THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY WANT.

WITH BEST WISHES. ENDS

HOWE  
LIMITED

CCD

NAD

SOV D

DEF D

WIAD

ERD

PLANNING STAFF

PS

PS LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/MR RIFKIND

PS/PUS

SIR J BULLARD

SIR J LEAHY

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