

OPS

cc NATO + Middle East;
Arms sales Pt 3

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 48 884 E 184

نذير بن سلطان آل نهيان

رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

الإمارات العربية المتحدة

CONFIDENTIAL

27th March, 1984.

The Right Honourable Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister,
Great Britain.

Your Excellency,

I was extremely pleased to receive your personal letter delivered by H.M. Government's Ambassador to the U.A.E. and in which you responded to the question I raised with Mr. Richard Luce in Abu Dhabi on 18th December, 1983 during our meeting in which we reviewed the development of fighting on the Iraqi Iranian front and the risks of escalated military operations on the Arabian Gulf in a way that threatens the vital interests of the free world.

The member countries of the Gulf cooperation council have a deep sense of the importance of the responsibilities incumbent upon them to guarantee the security and stability of this strategically vital and sensitive region of the world and they work with utmost vigour to coordinate their efforts in all defence matters to ensure the free flow of oil supplies to the free world. They also fully appreciate the close cooperation they jointly have with H.M. Government in the fields of supply of necessary defence equipment and training, a cooperation that is historically rooted in friendship and a history of dealings over successive generations.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

زَايِدُ بْنُ سُلْطَانَ آلِ نَهْيَانَ
رئيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

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As I mentioned during my meeting with Mr. Luce, and before him Mr. Moberly, the United Arab Emirates attaches special importance to the depth of bilateral relations it has with H.M. Government and with the British people and desires to strengthen and develop these ties in way that best serves the mutual interests of the two friendly peoples. Therefore I was particularly pleased with the speedy response of Your Excellency in defining the areas in which H.M. Government can contribute, in coordination with the United States in particular and with friendly nations in general, in facing the possible escalation of military operations in way that may threaten the national security of the United Arab Emirates and the Arabian Gulf region with its sea lanes. I was confident that this would be your response since it comes in line with the ancient bonds of friendship that exist since centuries between our two countries.

In thanking Your Excellency for your immediate and speedy response and interest, we look forward to maintaining direct and close contact so as to delineate areas of possible cooperation in accordance with the development of existing circumstances (on the war front)

With best wishes,

Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan
President of U.A.E.