

OPS

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Foreign Policy Pt 4  
East/West Relations



cc Subject  
Master

PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE  
OTTAWA, K1A 0A2

May 31, 1984

**PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE**

Dear Margaret,

**SERIAL No. ....**

T91/84

In recent months, I have had the opportunity to meet with a number of world leaders from both East and West, including Presidents Reagan and Chernenko, to exchange views at first hand about the current international security situation and the unsatisfactory state of East-West relations. I recall, in particular, the most valuable conversations we had in London last November and again in New Delhi during the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting during which we discussed several ideas and proposals aimed at reducing international tension and restoring the vital East-West relationship to a more stable and constructive basis.

In reflecting further on these consultations, I have been increasingly convinced, in spite of continuing difficulties and the regrettable lack of progress in the arms control field, that there remains a broad and identifiable common ground between East and West. As a result of certain recent statements made by leaders of both sides, I see a considerable measure of agreement on the basic principles which should govern international relations and, more particularly, our approach to the gravest threat to mankind, the possibility of war in the nuclear age.

Without ignoring our differences, we must concentrate on surveying and then building upon mutual interests and common ground. The following ten points, which I first put forward in a speech to the Canadian House of Commons earlier this year, could form a basis on which both sides could build:

The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher, M.P.  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom  
10 Downing Street  
London, England

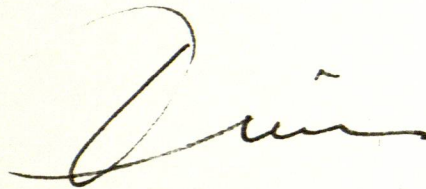
- Both sides agree that a nuclear war cannot be won.
- Both sides agree that a nuclear war must never be fought.
- Both sides wish to be free of the risk of accidental war or surprise attack.
- Both sides recognize the dangers inherent in destabilizing weapons.
- Both sides understand the need for improved techniques of crisis management.
- Both sides are conscious of the awesome consequences of being the first to use force against the other.
- Both sides have an interest in increasing security while reducing the cost.
- Both sides have an interest in avoiding the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries, so-called horizontal proliferation.
- Both sides have come to a guarded recognition of each other's legitimate security interests.
- Both sides realize that their security strategies cannot be based on the assumed political or economic collapse of the other side.

I believe that public acceptance of these ideas by leaders of both East and West, and particularly by the superpowers, would be an important step in creating the basic political framework and atmosphere so essential to productive negotiations in both the nuclear and conventional weapons fields. I am writing to you, and to other leaders, commending these ideas and seeking your agreement with them.

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I know that you share my hope that relations between East and West will soon improve significantly, so that the stage may be set for substantive movement in the long process of freeing all mankind from the threat of nuclear war.

Yours sincerely, *personal regards.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'D. Kim' or similar, written in dark ink.