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CC Master
Subject: Ivory Coast
Relations Feb 80.



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T180/84.

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

24 October 1984

Dear Mr. President,

I recall with considerable pleasure your visit to the United Kingdom last summer which I believe did much to cement our bilateral relations across a wide range of political, economic and commercial matters.

I am aware of the particular importance which your Government attaches to ensuring effective and reliable supplies of power for the Ivory Coast, following the recent difficulties caused by the prolonged period of drought.

Under cover of this letter is a presentation of their capabilities by Brown and Root (UK) Limited in association with Gulf Development Company Limited, the merchant bankers Hill Samuel as their financial advisers, and the international consultancy arms of two UK nationalised industries, the British Gas Corporation and the Central Electricity Generating Board.

I strongly commend the presentation to your attention. It is designed to demonstrate the companies' qualifications to assist your Government in the achievement of your objectives by establishing a lasting and profitable gas supply from indigenous offshore sources. It is envisaged that, in addition to power generation, this resource could also be used for the development of downstream industrial activity.

The British Government have every confidence in the ability of the Associates and their advisers to perform all engineering and contractual works required for the project's implementation, as well as to provide sound financial advice. They are accordingly approaching you with the full approval of the United Kingdom Government.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Monsieur Felix Houphouet-Boigny GCMG