

ORJ  
cc Master  
Subject: Foreign Policy  
Law of the Sea  
Part 3.

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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T193/P4

Dear Margaret:

As you know, the deadline for signature of the Law of the Sea Convention is fast approaching, and as far as I am concerned, it is not soon enough.

In the remaining weeks, it is our aim to maintain as much Western solidarity as possible. Despite signature by France and Japan, I believe we must strenuously urge the FRG, Italy and Belgium not to sign. Arthur Burns has conveyed my views to Chancellor Kohl, and similar demarches are being made in Rome and Brussels. We believe appeals on your part would be very helpful in countering the increased pressure proponents of the "new international economic order" are exerting on those governments during this time. We must make it clear that signature of the Convention will undermine our ability to negotiate a seabed mining regime in the future, which will attract and protect investment by private industry when the market warrants. Signature would mislead the developing countries to believe that the industrialized countries must ultimately accept the Convention in its present form.

Thank you for your help. We look forward to continued cooperation with the United Kingdom especially as we begin implementation of the provisional understanding regarding deep seabed matters, signed in August of this year.

Sincerely,

//S//

Ron

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