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10 DOWNING STREET

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THE PRIME MINISTER

12 October, 1981

My dear President Zia,

Now that I am back in London I can write to let you know how very much I enjoyed my visit to your country last Thursday.

The programme which you arranged for me was perfect - from the first moment of the very warm welcome which I received at the airport to the banquet you gave for me in your Palace before I left. You made the best possible use of every available second and so, though I was with you for all too short a time, I feel that I was able to learn a very great deal from my visit.

Above all, I have gained, both from my talks with you and my visit to the North-West Frontier Province, an invaluable personal insight into the effect of the Afghanistan problem on Pakistan. I am, as I said at my press conference, full of admiration for the way in which you are grappling with the burdens which have been thrust upon you. We in Britain will continue to do all we can to help.

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LTB

I am most grateful to you for all your hospitality, and your very generous gifts will serve to remind me of what was a truly fascinating day. I hope you will accept the enclosed photograph as an indication of my gratitude.

I am only sorry that I was not able to spend longer in Pakistan, and I look forward to our next meeting.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency General Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 October, 1981

My dear Ambassador,

I am writing to thank you and your staff for all you did to make my visit to Pakistan last Thursday so successful.

It was asking a great deal to try to pack so much in so short a space of time, but thanks to the arrangements which you had made with the Pakistani authorities, we managed it. The result was that though my stay was so brief, I gained an invaluable understanding of the problems facing President Zia, and especially of the impact on Pakistan of the situation in Afghanistan.

*Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Mr. O.G. Forster, C.M.G., M.V.O.

BB



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 October, 1981

My dear Governor,

I should like to thank you very warmly indeed for receiving me in the North-West Frontier Province last Thursday. The programme which had been arranged for me could not have been better. It was an eventful day, and I feel that I saw a good deal of your Province in a very short time.

I am particularly grateful to you for the lunch you gave for me: the setting under the awnings in the grounds of your lovely residence was one I shall long remember.

I shall have too your very generous gifts to remind me of the few hours I spent with you. I am only sorry that I was unable to stay longer.

Thank you again for all your hospitality.

Yours sincerely
Rajiv Gandhi

Lieutenant General Fazle Haq

RH



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 October, 1981

My dear Colonel,

I should like to thank you for the hospitality which you and your fellow officers showed me when I visited Landikotal and Torkham last Thursday.

I am particularly grateful for the two daggers and the shield which you gave me. They will be a memento of a fascinating visit.

*Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher*

Colonel Mohammed Akram Khan

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