

SUBJECT

cc. Harter
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OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
TOKYO



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T42c/82

Translation

March 9, 1982

Dear Prime Minister,

It gives me great pleasure to send this letter through Mr. Masumi Esaki, an old friend and most trusted colleague in the Liberal Democratic Party. Mr. Esaki is of highest stature in the Party and has served as Minister of International Trade and Industry, Minister for Home Affairs and Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission, Minister of State and Director General of the Defence Agency as well as Prime Minister ad interim in the Ohira Cabinet. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of asking Mr. Esaki to visit the United Kingdom as Special Envoy of the President of the Liberal Democratic Party to exchange views with the distinguished leaders of the British Government and the Parliament on the economic relations between Japan and the United Kingdom.

As you are aware, I have placed the smooth development of external economic relations as one of the primary aims of the new Cabinet. Accordingly, I decided to establish the Ministerial Conference for Economic Measures to expedite the work involved and,

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The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

at the same time, created the Special Committee for International Economic Measures within the Liberal Democratic Party. It is Mr. Esaki that I called upon to serve as chairman of the Committee, and it is with his assistance and efforts that I sought to pursue the examination of various issues concerned by the Party.

As I see the current international economic situation, I am deeply concerned about the increasing protectionist tendencies in some quarters. As I mentioned to you in June last year, the maintenance and strengthening of the multilateral and open trading system not only meet with the interests of our two countries but are indispensable for the peace and prosperity of the Western nations which share the basic political and economic values of liberty and democracy as well as the peace and prosperity of the world as a whole. This recognition was reaffirmed at the Ottawa Summit last year. We must seek, with our further efforts and cooperation, to revitalize the world economy under the free trading system.

I would like to pay my profound tribute to you for the consistent policies, including one to control inflation, which you have been pursuing since taking up your post, and for your resolute stand that the United Kingdom should contribute to the development of the world economy through the maintenance and strengthening of the free trading system. On my part, I am determined to do

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my utmost to further strengthen the cooperative relationship between Japan and the United Kingdom and to work together with you in making positive contributions toward our common goal.

I look forward very much to seeing you at the next Summit Meeting in June and also to welcoming you on the occasion of your planned visit to Japan this autumn. I am convinced that, the relations between our two countries will be further promoted through these closer contacts between us.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend to you my most sincere regards and my best wishes for your continued good health and success.

Yours sincerely,

Zenko Suzuki
Prime Minister of Japan

首相閣下

ここに、私の永年の友人であり、最も信頼する同僚である江崎真澄君を御紹介申し上げます。同君は、自由民主党内において重きをなし、大平内閣において総理大臣臨時代理をつとめた他、通商産業大臣、自治大臣・国家公安委員長、防衛庁長官を歴任した経験がありますが、今般、自由民主党総裁としての私の特使として貴国を訪問し、貴国政府・議会等の要人と日英経済関係につき広く意見交換を行うよう特にお願いした次第であります。

御承知のとおり、私は新内閣において対外経済関係の円滑なる発展を大きな政策の柱とし、経済対策閣僚会議を設けて作業を進めて参りましたが、同時に、自由民主党内に対外経済政策特別調査会を設置することとしました。この調査会の会長をお願いしたのが、江崎君であり、同君の尽力を得て、党による問題検討の促進をも図つて参つたのであります。

私は、現下の国際経済情勢をみるに、一部に保護主義的傾向が台頭しつつあることを深く憂慮するものであります。昨年六月に閣下と会談した際にも申し上げた通り、多角的開放的な貿易体制の維持・強化をはかることは、日英両国の利益に合致するのみならず、自由と民主主義という政治・経済上の基本理念を同じくする西側諸国、ひいては、世界の平和と繁栄にとつて不可欠であります。このことは、昨年のオタワ・サミットにおいても確認されているところであります。あり一層の努力と協力を重ね、自由貿易体制の下に世界経済の再活性化をはからなければならぬのであります。

私は閣下が御就任以来インフレ抑制等一貫した施策を展開されるとともに、自由貿易体制の維持・強化を通じて世界経済の発展に貢献するとの確固たる方針を示しておられることに敬意を払うものであり、私としても貴国との協力関係を一層強化しつつ、同じ目的に向つて積極的に貢献してゆく所存であります。

来る六月のサミットの機会に、また、今秋閣下を我が国にお迎えしてお目にかかれることは私の喜びとするところであり、この様な交流を通じ日英関係が一層発展してゆくものと確信しております。

この機会に閣下に対し敬意を表しますとともに閣下の御健康と御健闘を心から祈念します。

昭和五十七年三月九日

日本国内閣総理大臣

鈴木善幸

グレート・ブリテン及び北部アイルランド連合王国
マーガレット・サッチャー 首相閣下