

SUBJECT

1 copy to press - done

T 69/80

1 copy to MODBA - done

Disaster

UNCLASSIFIED

22617 - 2

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T69/80**

GRS 191

UNCLASSIFIED

FM FCO 281350Z MARCH 1980

TO FLASH OSLO

TELEGRAM NO 34 OF 28 MARCH

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER:-

I AM WRITING ON BEHALF OF HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST DISTRESS AND SYMPATHY WITH THE NORWEGIAN PEOPLE IN THE TRAGIC LOSS OF LIFE IN THE ALEXANDER KIELLAND DISASTER. WE ARE PROVIDING AND WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN THE RESCUE OPERATIONS WHICH ARE IN HAND AND IF THERE IS ANY FURTHER HELP WHICH WE CAN GIVE WE STAND INSTANTLY READY TO GIVE IT. YOUR COUNTRY SHARES WITH OURS THE PROBLEMS AND DANGERS INHERENT IN THE WINNING OF OIL AND GAS FROM THE NORTH SEA, AND THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE CLOSEST CO-OPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN US. THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO BOTH OUR COUNTRIES HAS NEVER BEEN MORE CLEARLY SHOWN THAN IT HAS TODAY.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT EXTENDS TO YOUR COUNTRY AND TO THE FAMILIES AND RELATIVES OF THOSE WHO HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES OR SUFFERED INJURY, ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY IN THE TRAGIC LOSS AND DISTRESS WHICH THEY HAVE SUFFERED. SEE MIFT.

CARRINGTON

NNNN

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENTAL DIST:
WED
ENS AND SD

COPIES TO
PS/S OF S D/ENERGY

SUBJECT

No. press copy
(copy to mod/ba - done)

UNCLASSIFIED

22618 - 2

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T68/80**

ZZ OSLO
GRS 120
UNCLASSIFIED
FM FCO 281430Z MARCH 1980
TO FLASH OSLO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 35 OF 28 MARCH
MIPT

1. PLEASE ALSO PASS TO THE NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER THE FOLLOWING JOINT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT.

BEGINS:

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

IT IS WITH DEEP SHOCK THAT WE HEARD WHILE WE WERE MEETING TOGETHER TODAY THE NEWS OF THE TERRIBLE EVENTS THAT HAPPENED TO THE ALEXANDER KEILLAND OIL RIG LAST NIGHT.

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF ALL THOSE WHO PERISHED IN THE ACCIDENT. WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE CONTINUING RESCUE EFFORTS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

PLEASE CONVEY OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE RELATIVES OF THOSE INVOLVED.

MARGARET THATCHER, HELMUT SCHMIDT.
CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DISTN.

WED

ES & SD

COPIES TO:

PS/S OF S D/ENERGY

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10
DOWNING ST]



BRITISH EMBASSY

Postal address: Postuttak, Oslo 1
Office address: Thomas Heftyegate 8, Oslo, Norway
Telex: 11575 Telephone: Oslo 56-38-90

232/1

24 April 1980

To Amb

Mr Leves (Private Office)

R P Nash Esq
Western European Department
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
London SW1

*We spoke and
you agreed a copy
to No 10. Rhes
30/4*

Dear Lord,

ALEXANDER KIELLAND DISASTER

1. I enclose a copy of a letter from the Norwegian Prime Minister, Mr Odvar Nordli, to the Ambassador containing a personal message to Mrs Thatcher. Will you please arrange for the message to be conveyed to the Prime Minister?

Yours ever,

M T Jones

M T Jones

Enc.

*The Secretary Sir Archie Lamb
for Britannic Majesty's Government*



SUBJECT

THE ROYAL NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT
THE PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T90180

Oslo, 22 April 1980

Dear Ambassador,

I wish to express my sincere thanks for your letter of 28 March 1980, conveying a message of condolence from the Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, in connection with the tragic accident in the North Sea.

On behalf of the Norwegian Government I should be most grateful if you would kindly convey to your Prime Minister our deepfelt appreciation and gratitude for the gallant assistance rendered in the North Sea by the British units under extremely difficult conditions, which indeed proves the closest cooperation and understanding between our two nations.

I have not failed to convey the message of sympathy to the bereaved families.

Yours sincerely,

Odvar Nordli

His Excellency Sir Archie Lamb
Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador
Oslo