

Italy.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 June 1981

Lg. Pmt 10/6

Dear Michael,

Italian Earthquake Relief

In your letter of 4 June you asked us to arrange a Written Question to record HMG's contribution towards earthquake relief in southern Italy.

This has in fact already been done. A question was put down on 13 May for answer by the Lord Privy Seal. You may wish to draw the Prime Minister's attention to the relevant extract from Hansard, of which I
/ attach a copy.

Yours ever,

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing St

Italy

4 June 1981

*BF / question*Italian Earthquake Relief

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 1 June on this subject. She was grateful for the information in it and has asked that you should arrange a Written Question in order that the information in your letter can be put on the public record.

MODBA

F.J. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

9



CF

ccfr

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10 DOWNING STREET

Subject on Italy: Tanti
Anglo Italian Summit

3 June 1981

THE PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 85/81

Dear Signor Forlani,

Thank you for your letter of 27 May explaining that you were unable to come to London for talks on 2/3 June. I too much regret the postponement of a meeting to which I had been greatly looking forward, but of course I fully understand the need for you to be in Rome at the present time.

Perhaps I could take this opportunity to thank you also for your letter of 16 May, in which you expressed gratitude for the help given by the Government and people of the United Kingdom in the areas of Italy affected by last November's earthquake. As you know, I was myself in Rome when the earthquake struck, and the vivid memory of those first moments makes me particularly glad that my country has been able to contribute towards the relief and reconstruction programme.

*Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher*

His Excellency Signor Arnaldo Forlani

Handwritten mark



(2)

Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Print 2/6

May we arrange
a written
confirmation to put
the information
on record

1 June 1981

Dear Michael,

Italian Earthquake Relief

In your letter of 13 January you conveyed the Prime Minister's agreement that a further £0.5 million should be spent on the purchase and transport of British manufactured prefabricated buildings for use in the disaster area in Southern Italy. The Prime Minister may wish to know that the operation we then set in hand was successfully completed on 9 May with the ceremonial handing over by HM Ambassador in Rome to the local Italian authorities of a number of prefabricated buildings at the villages of Serino and Solofra. The operation was supervised by the Crown Agents and was completed on time, against considerable odds, thanks to the untiring efforts of a small team of Royal Engineers who took over most of the construction work from the UK contractors. There is no doubt that this gift to the Italian authorities is greatly appreciated by the local communities: indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that it will enable normal life to resume in the two villages in question. The President of Italy, S. Pertini, is aware of what we have done. I attach a note describing the buildings provided.

MR

Yours ever,

Francis Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

M O D'B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1



SUMMARY OF UNITS PROVIDED BY HMG

(1) SERINO

- (a) An Old Peoples' Home, consisting of two Dormitory Units, each divided into six bedrooms and a corridor; and two General Purpose Units, linked to the bedrooms by a corridor.
- (b) An Agricultural College consisting of four Classrooms.
- (c) Three Social Centres, each of one building.

(2) SOLOFRA

- (a) Two Classroom complexes, each comprising two buildings connected by a covered corridor.
- (b) Two Social Centres linked by common entrance porch.
- (c) Community Centre complete with two sets of moveable partitioning.



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2 JUN 1966

11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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