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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

15 June 1984

Dear Charles,

London Economic Summit:
Messages from Latin American Presidents

In my letter of 5 June I said we would recommend to the Prime Minister after the Summit whether she should reply to the message from the seven Latin American Presidents - Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Argentina - delivered to Sir Crispin Tickell on 5 June. *see p 16*

During the Foreign Ministers' discussions at the Summit the Foreign Secretary was asked whether the Prime Minister would reply to the messages. Our recommendation is that the Prime Minister should reply to all but the Argentine, and I enclose a draft. In our view it would be useful to emphasise to the Latin American Presidents the elements in the London Economic Summit Declaration concerning the handling of debt problems and to demonstrate thereby that the Summit had indeed taken their concerns into account. The message from the Latin American Presidents asks for a constructive dialogue between creditors and debtors and an atmosphere of open cooperation. The elements on debt in the London Summit Declaration are a contribution to both those aims and we should take due credit for them. But we can only support a dialogue between creditors and debtors individually and on a case by case basis. We would not want to see the emergency of anything resembling a debtors' cartel.

The message from the Latin American Presidents was released to the press. If the Latin American Presidents wished to do the same with the Prime Minister's reply we would see no difficulty. But we do not think it necessary to give the message publicity ourselves.

The President of Panama, who is also President of the 38th General Assembly of the United Nations, sent a separate

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message to the Prime Minister and other Summit participants on 7 June associating himself with the joint message sent by the Latin American Presidents. We arranged for his message to be available to the Prime Minister on 8 June.

When the Prime Minister writes to the six Presidents it would be right for her to acknowledge this message also. I enclose a draft accordingly.

Sir Crispin Tickell has already given a background briefing to the Ambassadors of the Latin American countries concerned. They were anxious to establish that this did not count as a reply to their Presidents' personal message to the Prime Minister.

I am copying this letter to David Peretz in HM Treasury.

Yours ever,

Len Appleyard

(L V Appleyard)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM

Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

TO:

Presidents of: Brazil ✓
 Mexico ✓
 Peru ✓
 Colombia ✓
 Ecuador ✓
 Venezuela ✓

Your Reference

Copies to:

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.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

SUBJECT:

Thank you for your message of 5 June which reached me the day before the London Economic Summit. I drew it to the attention of the Heads of State and of Government taking part in the Summit, and it was ^{brought} in our minds ^{thought} throughout our discussions. We were also aware of the contents of the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action published on 14 January.

You will have seen that the Declaration adopted at the Summit ^{recognised the great importance of} devoted much attention to the issue of international debt. ^{and contained a number of} My colleagues and I ^{thought} it would be helpful to put forward proposals which ^{the participants} we believe could be effective in contributing towards the resolution of debt problems.

I welcome what you say about establishing an atmosphere of open cooperation. The Summit participants were anxious to ensure that the present recovery among industrial countries should not only be sustained at home but spread to the rest of the world. Recognising the importance of trade in this process, the Summit also gave

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DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM

Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: His Excellency Dr Jorge Illueca
President of the Republic of
Panama

Your Reference

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Thank you for your message of 7 June which reached me during the London Economic Summit. The Heads of State and Government took due account of it, together with the message from the seven Latin American Presidents to which you refer. We were also aware of the contents of the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action.

You will have seen that the Declaration adopted at the Summit devoted much attention to the issue of international debt. My colleagues and I thought it would be helpful to put forward proposals which we believe could be effective in contributing towards the resolution of debt problems.

The Summit participants were anxious to ensure that the present recovery among industrial countries should not only be sustained at home but spread to the rest of the world. Recognising the importance of trade in this process, the Summit also gave a strong impetus to current efforts to resist and reverse protectionist measures. I believe these elements of the London Declaration express the common interests of the international community.

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