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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 55186



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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

20 March 1986

Dear Prime Minister,

I was delighted to hear from our High Commissioner that your Government had agreed to the signature of the Westlands helicopter contract. This is wonderful news: and I am very grateful for the attention that you personally have given to the often complicated and difficult negotiations.

I am also pleased that we shall now be able to make a useful contribution to India's development in the offshore oil and gas industry.

I was sorry that I was unable to go to Stockholm for the funeral of Olof Palme, and thereby also missed an opportunity to have a talk with you. I understand, however, that you have kindly agreed to see Sir Geoffrey Howe when he visits New Delhi at the end of the month. There is a great deal to discuss and I look forward to hearing from him an account of your talks.

With warm regards to you and your family - and renewed thanks for the personal interest which you have taken in achieving this very happy outcome.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Shri Rajiv Gandhi

SKW