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THE PRIME MINISTER

7 May 1986

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T 83 B/86

Dear Prime Minister,

You wrote to me about a conversation I had with Mr. R.J. Samson who represented your Minister of Health at the recent conference of Ministers of Health on Narcotic and Psychotropic Drug Misuse held in London.

I was grateful to you for taking the trouble to write. Douglas Hurd has also reported to me the very useful discussions he had recently with your Minister of Justice and State Secretary for Health.

The menace of drugs is one that all European Governments are faced with, and the reports available to us indicate that a significant aspect of the British side of the problem is the flow of drugs to this country from the Netherlands, particularly amphetamines and cannabis resin. We know that you have to contend with massive problems, particularly in dealing with the huge amounts of container traffic through Rotterdam, and I know also of the efforts you are making to overcome them. We must all do all we can to attack the traffickers, and I was heartened to learn from your letter

and from Douglas Hurd's report of his discussions with your people of the high priority you are giving to this.

I know that you are as convinced as we are of the importance of international co-operation to fight drug trafficking, and I gladly acknowledge the help we already receive from you at operational level and through the Pompidou Group. We must take every opportunity we can to develop that co-operation.

Yours sincerely
Raymond Stalteri

P.S. I am so sorry we did not have time to discuss this in Tokyo.

His Excellency Dr. Ruud R.M. Lubbers