



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

13 February 1986

**MEXICAN PRESS ARTICLE ON ALLEGED INVESTMENT BY THE  
PRIME MINISTER IN MEXICO**

Thank you for your letter of 13 February. There are some stories so absurd as not to be worth dignifying with comment. And I find it hard to believe a denial of this one three weeks after publication of the article is likely to carry much weight. I do not wish to seem unkind: but I would have thought a little nous would have pointed to an on-the-spot rubbishing of the story when it appeared.

(CHARLES POWELL)

R. N. Culshaw, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SB



007 MKK

Robert Colson

for  
COP

Mexican Born Article on  
Alleged to be written by  
Ric Amick - Mexico.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

13 February 1986

*Star Charts,*

Mexican Press Article on Alleged Investment  
by the Prime Minister in Mexico

We have received from the Embassy in Mexico City the attached translation of an article from a Mexican daily newspaper (circulation 75,000). It alleges that the Prime Minister is investing approximately £24m in a hotel development project in Acapulco, Mexico, which will require the relocation of 2,500 families from the area against their will.

We believe it important to set the record straight before the story spreads and creates anti-British sentiment in the period running up to the World Cup, in which three British teams will compete.

I should be grateful for your approval to instruct the Embassy on the lines of the attached telegram to inform the newspaper editor, and the spokesman of the residents who appears to have started the story, that it is false. We do not recommend that a retraction be requested as this could lead to further publicity for the story in a country where denials are usually disbelieved.

*Yours ever,*

*Robert Culshaw*

(R N Culshaw)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
No.10 Downing Street



# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

Classification	Caveat	Precedence
RESTRICTED		PRIORITY
TC	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION . . . RESTRICTED . . . . .	
CAVEAT	PRIVACY MARKING/RESTRICTIVE PREFIX . . . . .	
FM	FM (post) . . . . . FM FCO . . . . .	
TO	TO (precedence/post) . . . . . TO PRIORITY MEXICO CITY . . . . .	
TELNO	TELNO/TELELETTER . . . . . TELNO . . . . .	
OF	OF (Time of origin) . . . . . Z (Month) . . . . . (Year) . . . . .	
AND TO	AND TO (precedence/post) . . . . .	
	. . . . .	
	AND TO SAVING . . . . .	
INFO	INFO (precedence/post) . . . . .	
	. . . . .	
	INFO SAVING . . . . .	

**Distribution:-**

PS  
 PS/Lady Young  
 Sir W Harding  
 Mr David Thomas  
 MCAD  
 News Dept

MILTON'S LETTER TO JOY OF 31 JANUARY: PRIME MINISTER  
 AND ACAPULCO

1. We have consulted No 10 about the article in EL Dia of 23 January alleging that the Prime Minister was investing money in a tourist development near Acapulco. They agree that you should inform the editor of EL Dia and the spokesman for the residents (Lopez Guzman) that the story is without foundation. We do not favour a public retraction in a country where denials tend to be disbelieved

2. You should take similar action if the story is carried in other newspapers. Please keep us informed of any further interest shown in the story.

		Catchword:	
File number	Department	Drafted by: (block capitals)	Telephone no
	MCAD	S D R BROWN	233-5102





NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



020  
cefc  
TRANSLATION

'EL DIA', Acapulco, Gro - 23 January 1986

MARGARET THATCHER INVESTS IN ACAPULCO

The Prime Minister of Great Britain, Margaret Thatcher, with an investment of \$MN15,000m will construct a luxury hotel in the new tourist complex Puerto Marquez, for which reason the Government has set up a programme for the relocation of 2,500 families who have lived in the area for twenty years.

In bringing this to notice, the political adviser of the dwellers affected, Enrique Lopez Guzman, condemned unscrupulous persons who had endeavoured to deceive the local residents with the story that they will not benefit from the transaction, notwithstanding the existence of an agreement between the town residents and the Federal authorities.

The spokesman reported that the British Premier, Margaret Thatcher, had signed an agreement with the relevant authorities for carrying out an investment in Mexico and that, despite the fact that the residents did not agree to move, they had decided to do so because foreign investment in the country would enable the economy to develop.

Likewise, Lopez Guzman pointed out that unless the commitments undertaken by the relevant authorities whereby the existing population was to be resettled three kilometers from the site below the Santissimo Hill are being kept, as well as an urban infrastructure to improve living conditions developed, the residents would not abandon the area even if it had been earmarked for the British Prime Minister.

Finally, the residents' adviser charged Germán Salinas, Antonio Sánchez and Emilio Zamora Olmedo with obstructing the work of the Federal authorities to prepare the ground to be used for the construction of a modern tourist complex open to all social sectors of the population.

BRITISH EMBASSY

MEXICO CITY

20 January 1986



**Poor quality  
text due to the  
nature of the  
material.**

**Image quality is  
best available.**



PREMIER THATCHER

NEWSPAPER/PERIODICAL

EL DIA

MEXICO CITY

ISSUE DATE

En hotel de lujo

## Margaret Thatcher invierte en Acapulco

ACAPULCO, Guerrero, 23 de enero. — Con una inversión de 15 mil millones de pesos, la primera ministra de la Gran Bretaña, Margaret Thatcher, construirá un lujoso hotel en el nuevo complejo turístico Puerto Marqués, motivo por el cual el gobierno ha instrumentado un programa para reubicar a las dos mil 500 familias a vecinadas desde hace más de 20 años en dicho lugar.

Al señalar lo anterior, el asesor político de los afectados, Enrique López Guzmán, denunció que personas sin escrúpulos han pretendido engañar a los pobladores con el cuento de que no serán favorecidos por el cambio, a pesar que existe un convenio entre los pobladores y las autoridades federales.

El interlocutor reseñó que la premier inglesa, Margaret Thatcher, signó un convenio con las autoridades respectivas para realizar una inversión de nuestro país y que, a pesar de no estar los pobladores de acuerdo en el desplazamiento, han decidido hacerlo para que la inversión extranjera en nuestro país permita desarrollar la economía.

Asimismo, López Guzmán expresó que de no cumplirse los compromisos contraídos con las autoridades respectivas para que el viejo poblado sea ubicado a tres kilómetros del lugar bajo el cerro conocido como el Santísimo, como es la construcción de una infraestructura urbanística para elevar sus condiciones de vida, no a abandonar el sitio, así sea destinado a la premier de la Gran Bretaña, Margaret Thatcher.

Por último, el asesor de los a vecinados de la población de Puerto Marqués, acusó a Germán Salinas, Antonio Sánchez, y Emilio Zamora Olmedo de obstaculizar la labor de las autoridades federales para permitir el uso del suelo en la construcción de un complejo turístico moderno y accesible a todos los estratos sociales de la población. Mario GARCIA RODRIGUEZ, corresponsal.



