

(T E X T)

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TOSHIKI KAIFU

TO THE RT. HON. MARGARET THATCHER, FRS, MP

It was with extreme regret that I received your recent message regarding your decision to step down in order to make way for a successor.

Your premiership of Great Britain has been recorded in history as being the longest this century, as have your many achievements as a world leader.

Your remarkable and historical achievements, together with your contribution to the building of an excellent relationship between Japan and the United Kingdom, have brought you the respect and sympathy of the Japanese people.

I particularly remember the supportive remarks you made on behalf of Japan at the Houston Economic Summit. Your understanding of Japan's position very much endeared you to our people, and this event has often been spoken of with great warmth.

.../...

I am hopeful that you, as a good friend of Japan, will continue to support our efforts to expand the relationship between our two nations in the coming years. As for my part, I am determined to do my utmost to foster our present good relationship and work closely with your successor as Prime Minister.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you good health and every success for the future.

With warmest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Toshiki Kaifu

Prime Minister of Japan

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, FRS, MP

Prime Minister

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