

Public Comment by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Prime Minister Thatcher's  
announcement of her resignation as Leader of the Conservative Party

Prime Minister Thatcher is a rare leader of firm convictions who has invigorated the United Kingdom and I feel great regret that she has withdrawn from the front line.

Prime Minister Thatcher has worked to create good Anglo-Japanese relations and we have had summit meetings on four occasions, where I always felt very attracted by her strong convictions. At the recent Houston Summit, I well remember with gratitude her understanding of Japan's position and her speech of support. Whoever her successor is, we will continue to work together in the light of the present cordial Anglo-Japanese relations./.

Public Comment by Mr. Taro Nakayama, Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Japan, on Prime Minister Thatcher's announcement of her resignation  
as Leader of the Conservative Party

Over a long period since May 1979, Prime Minister Thatcher has been active as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and one of the great world leaders and has been a politician to whom the people of Japan feel very close. In the rapidly changing international society of the present time, I feel that the resignation of such an experienced and powerful leader as Prime Minister Thatcher is a great loss to the world.

Prime Minister Thatcher announced that she has decided to resign as Prime Minister to open the way for her colleagues, thus ensuring the unity of the Party and victory in the next General Election. Whilst I feel a renewed sense of admiration at her resolution, it is very regrettable that Prime Minister Thatcher has resigned.

After coming to office, Prime Minister Thatcher visited Japan on four occasions and leaves many achievements in the furtherance of Anglo-Japanese relations. In particular, she has contributed greatly to the broadening of economic relations with Japan and, in close partnership with Japan, has striven tirelessly to strengthen unity between Europe, the United States and Japan.

Japan will maintain a close dialogue with the Government of the United Kingdom under Prime Minister Thatcher's successor and will continue to work to maintain and develop the cordial Anglo-Japanese relations which have been built up under the Thatcher Government./.

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address*

EMBASSY OF JAPAN  
LONDON

27th November 1990

*C. O. N.  
27/11*

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I am asked to send you, for your information, the two public comments, one issued by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and one by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in Tokyo following your decision to step down as Leader of the Conservative Party.

I have pleasure in enclosing herewith the text of these messages.

*Yours sincerely,  
Kazuo Chiba*

Kazuo Chiba  
Ambassador

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