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CONFIDENTIAL



M. Alexander
9.30-1000 on
Wednesday 10th
es. 28th

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 November 1980

Prime Minister

Dear Michael,

Agree to see Mr Ito on the
morning of Wednesday 10 December?
Yes Mr

Paul

Visit to London by the Japanese Foreign Minister

The Japanese Embassy have requested a brief call by their Foreign Minister, Mr Ito, on the Prime Minister on 10 December. Mr Ito will be in London until early afternoon that day, after attending the IEA Ministerial meeting in Paris on 9 December. Lord Carrington will be having talks with him in the morning and giving him lunch.

Lord Carrington hopes that the Prime Minister will be able to find time to see Mr Ito. It will be his first visit to London and the first by any member of the present Japanese government. In recent months the Japanese have shown a welcome desire to work closely with the Nine over the response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Iran and the Middle East. A brief call on the Prime Minister would offer an opportunity to demonstrate our interest in closer contacts on international issues, and at the same time to register concern about the present trend in our economic relations with Japan. We also hope that the Japanese Prime Minister will receive Lord Carrington in April.

As Mr Ito will be visiting Europe at a time when trade relations with Japan are under active consideration in the Community and elsewhere, I am copying this letter to Stuart Hampson (Department of Trade).

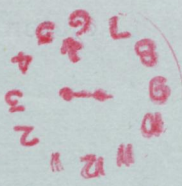
yours ever
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing St

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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2 December 1980

Thank you for your letter of 27 November, about the visit to London of the Japanese Foreign Minister.

As I told you on the telephone, the Prime Minister will see him at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 10 December.

You told me that he was likely to be accompanied by the Japanese Ambassador and one or two other officials. You intend to field Sir Edward Youde, and if the Japanese team does not include a suitable interpreter, you will arrange for one to be provided.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Stuart Hampson (Department of Trade).

M. A. PATTISON

CS

R. M. J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.