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THE PRIME MINISTER

26 March 1986

SUBJECT CE MASTER
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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T60/86

Dear Ron,

Thank you for your message of 14 March about nuclear testing. I was glad to have the full explanation of the new United States proposal which seems a very sensible and practical one. I am sure that you are right to try to engage the Russians in a dialogue on effective verification. And I strongly support the link you make between progress in this area and ratification of the Threshold Test Ban and Peaceful Nuclear Explosion treaties. The swift public rejection of your proposals by the Soviet Union is disappointing. But I hope it will not be their last word.

I am following events in the Gulf of Sirte closely and have expressed our strong support for the United States' right to operate in international waters and airspace, and to defend itself against attack.

With warm regards.

Lawrence
Raymond

5/86