

SUBJECT

Em Mark
Op
Embaxada de Portugal
em
Londres

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 1610/81

M E S S A G E

Dear Prime Minister,

The meeting of the European Council to be held in London is of the highest importance for the future of Europe. Thus, it is only natural that Portugal, a country that is negotiating its accession, follow this summit with great attention and interest.

I think this is an appropriate occasion to, once more, underline my Government's desire to conclude the negotiations concerning our accession, in the shortest delay and in any case before the end of 1982.

This will be the logical outcome of a process initiated in March 1977 with the formal request by Portugal to join the Communities and which had been pursued for the last four years with firm determination.

This commitment to join the Communities has had, from the beginning, the full support of all Portuguese democratic parties, as it translates the idea that Portugal belongs in Europe and that the EEC, according to the spirit of the Treaty of Rome, does not fully attain its goals, unless it accepts those countries that, like Portugal, want to contribute to the construction of a free and democratic Europe.

This was the reason which led my predecessor, Mr. Francisco Sa Carneiro, to maintain close contact with the leaders of the EEC countries. This is also the reason why my Government and myself have tried to reaffirm our position along this year.

I feel sure that in the London summit talks the question of Portugal's accession to the Communities will be considered and merit your valuable support.

Yours sincerely,

Francisco Pinto Balsemão
Prime Minister.

24th November, 1981

SS
Portugal

25 November 1981

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF PORTUGAL

I enclose a copy of a message which the Prime Minister has received from the Prime Minister of Portugal. I should be grateful if you would let me have, in due course, a draft reply which the Prime Minister might send to Senhor Balsemao.

MODBA

Francis Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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25 November 1981

Thank you for your letter of 24 November.
I have drawn the letter from the Prime Minister
of Portugal to Mrs. Thatcher's attention.

MDBA

Senhor J.M. de Macedo

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Embaiscada de Portugal
em
Londres

✓^T Mr F Richards FCO

24th November, 1981

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Proc. 2,212

No. 209

Dear Mr. Alexander,

I have the pleasure of enclosing the text of a message received by telex today from the Portuguese Prime Minister addressed to the British Prime Minister.

I would be most grateful if you would bring the text to the Prime Minister's attention at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

J. M. de Macedo

(J. M. de Macedo)

Counsellor.

Michael Alexander, Esq.,
Private Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.