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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T221A/8

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FALKLANDS AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA

1. ON 4 NOVEMBER THE PRIME MINISTER RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JAYEWARDENE VIA THE SRI LANKAN HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON.

BEGINS

'YOUR HIGH COMMISSIONER DELIVERED TO ME YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING THE RESOLUTION ON THE FALKLANDS AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN ON THE MATTER AND I HAVE DIRECTED MY DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO VOTE AGAINST THE RESOLUTION.' ENDS

2. PLEASE SEEK AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM MRS THATCHER TO THE PRESIDENT IN REPLY.

BEGINS

'YOUR HIGH COMMISSIONER DELIVERED TO ME ON 4 NOVEMBER YOUR REPLY TO MY MESSAGE ABOUT THE ARGENTINE RESOLUTION ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WHICH WAS VOTED ON LATER THAT DAY. SRI LANKA'S DECISION TO VOTE AGAINST THIS RESOLUTION IS MOST WARMLY APPRECIATED IN THIS COUNTRY AND I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE DECISION YOU TOOK.' ENDS

PYM

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FALKLAND ISLANDS

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A register

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

15 November, 1982

Falklands at the General Assembly

Thank you for your letter of 12 November. The Prime Minister agrees that the proposed message from herself to the President of Sri Lanka should be despatched and I should be grateful if you would arrange for this.

Mrs. Thatcher also considers that we should thank the Sultan of Oman for his country's negative vote. I should be grateful if you would provide a draft.

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

12 November 1982

Agree that this message  
should be telegraphed?

A.P.C. 12/11

Yes - and  
one to Oman  
ms

Dear John,

Falklands at the General Assembly

Thank you for your letter of 4 November, with which you enclosed a copy of a message from the President of Sri Lanka to the Prime Minister about the Sri Lankan decision to vote against the Argentine draft resolution.

We recommend that the Prime Minister should send a brief message of appreciation in reply. We had not expected Sri Lanka to do better than abstain and the decision is known to have been very much the President's own.

We do not propose that the Prime Minister should send any other messages of appreciation. Her messages to the Prime Ministers of New Zealand, Fiji and Belize in the week before the vote already took the form of expressions of gratitude for the robust attitude those governments were taking rather than requests for assistance. Apart from Sri Lanka, the only Heads of Government to have replied to the Prime Minister's messages are Australia, Singapore and the Maldives, which all abstained. All the posts concerned have already been asked to convey our thanks as appropriate for negative votes or abstentions, making clear that they do so on instructions from Ministers.

Oman?  
Should we  
thank? The  
rest of the  
Celtic abstained  
(I am sure that  
is kind for  
us)

Yours ever  
John Holmes

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

## DRAFT MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT OF SRI LANKA

Your High Commissioner delivered to me on 4 November your reply to my message about the Argentine resolution on the Falkland Islands which was voted on later that day. Sri Lanka's decision to vote against this resolution is most warmly appreciated in this country and I am most grateful to you for the decision you took.

SUBJECT

T 208/82

From the High Commissioner



PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 208/82

High Commission of the Democratic  
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

13, Hyde Park Gardens,

London W2 2LU

a master

af

4 November 1982

My dear Prime Minister

I have much pleasure in conveying the following message from my President addressed to you :

*Not on file at present*  
" Your High Commissioner delivered to me your message regarding Resolution on the Falklands at the United Nations General Assembly. I appreciate your concern on the matter and I have directed my Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly to vote against the Resolution. "

With my highest esteem and warm personal regards

Yours sincerely

A.T. Moorthy

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP.,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London SW1

4 November 1982

I am writing in the Prime Minister's absence in Paris, to thank you for your letter of 4 November conveying a message from your President. I will place your letter before the Prime Minister as soon as possible.

TIM FLESHER

His Excellency Mr. A.T. Moorthy.

MFJ

4 November 1982

BKF/

I enclose a message which the President of Sri Lanka has addressed to the Prime Minister via his High Commissioner. As you will see he has directed his delegation at the United Nations General Assembly to vote against the Falklands resolution. I should be grateful for your advice on whether the Prime Minister should reply and if so for a draft.

TF

John Holmes Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

AL