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PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 61A/83

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FM THE WHITE HOUSE  
TO CABINET OFFICE LONDON  
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US Declassified

MAY 10, 1983

DEAR MARGARET:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE WITH THE NEWS THAT YOU HAVE CALLED ELECTIONS ON JUNE 9. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES OF LEAVING THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN PERIOD. IT IS FINE WITH ME IF YOU ANNOUNCE TODAY THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COME TO WASHINGTON FOR A BILATERAL MEETING.

I WOULD VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOU WOULD SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO PARTICIPATING PERSONALLY IN THE WILLIAMSBURG MEETING ITSELF. OUR APPROACHES TO COMMON CHALLENGES ARE VERY SIMILAR, AND I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR IDEAS AND SUPPORT DURING THE DISCUSSIONS IN WILLIAMSBURG. PERHAPS YOU COULD ATTEND FROM NOON SUNDAY, MAY 29, TO THE FORMAL CLOSING ON MONDAY, MAY 30. DURING THIS PERIOD YOU WOULD PARTICIPATE BOTH IN THE CRITICAL SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND THE MAJOR PUBLIC EVENT OF THE SUMMIT.

I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN THE ELECTION, AND IN GAINING ANOTHER MANDATE TO CARRY OUT THE COURAGEOUS AND PRINCIPLED POLICIES WHICH YOU HAVE BEGUN.

SINCERELY,

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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

10 May 1983

WILLIAMSBURG

I enclose a copy of a message which the Prime Minister has received from President Reagan in reply to her message of 9 May.

With regard to the first paragraph, we are announcing this evening that the Prime Minister will now not be able to visit Washington on 26/27 May.

In the second paragraph, President Reagan suggests that the Prime Minister might attend the Williamsburg Summit from noon on Sunday, 29 May until the formal closing on Monday 30 May. I shall be showing the Prime Minister this message overnight. Unless she wishes to respond sooner, it will be considered at the meeting which we are arranging on Tuesday 17 May to discuss attendance at both Williamsburg and Stuttgart.

B/F  
16/5

I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to John Kerr (HM Treasury) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office) and should be grateful if you and they would not circulate President Reagan's message beyond Private Offices.

A. J. COLES

Brian Fall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SC