

CF
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May 30th, 1988.

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

GB - London SW1

Prime Minister 2

FERB is held
a meeting this evening or
this and will provide
urgent advice.

N. C. V

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see note at top

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you very much for sending me with the Secretary of the Cabinet the most impressive proposal of the British Government. I realize that a lot of thoughts and very quick work was needed to put together a long-term solution of our collection. I discussed it with my eldest son George Henry and my wife and we came to the conclusion that for the time being we cannot unilaterally break the agreement we signed with the Spanish Government on the 7th of April this year, which the Ministry of Culture reconfirmed and according to which a loan of 600 to 700 pictures will be arranged for ten years to a joint foundation, after the Villa Hermosa in Madrid has been modified into a modern Museum. This will hopefully be completed within two years and will bring the whole question to the year 2000. I will keep everything very confidential and will inform you immediately if there is any development which might change the existing spirit of the Spanish Government.

I am very sorry not to be able to convey to you better news, but I hope to intensify the cultural exchange with the British Government, in which I have a very great confidence, and England, which I like as a country in every respect.

My wife and I are sending you our best regards,

Yours very sincerely

Hans Bornemisza

H.H. Thyssen-Bornemisza

ARTS + AMENITIES

Thyssen Feb 88