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PP TOKYO
GRS 116
UNCLASSIFIED
FM FCO 301445Z NOV 82
TO PRIORITY TOKYO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 565 OF 30 NOVEMBER.

(101)

FCO TELNO 558: PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO MR NAKASONE
1. PLEASE NOW DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME
MINISTER TO MR NAKASONE.
BEGINS: I SEND YOU MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ASSUMPTION
OF THE HIGH OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN.

I ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO CLOSE AND FRIENDLY
RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND WAS GLAD OF THE
OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT JAPAN IN SEPTEMBER AS A DEMONSTRATION OF
THIS RELATIONSHIP. I AM SURE THAT WE SHALL HAVE MANY
OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING AND
INCREASING CO-OPERATION WITH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT UNDER YOUR
LEADERSHIP. ENDS

PYM

NNNN
DIST
LIMITED
FED
PCD
PS
PS/LORD BELSTEAD
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR DONALD

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary   30 November 1982

MESSAGE TO MR. NAKASONE

    Thank you for your letter of
29 November. The Prime Minister agrees
that the proposed message of congratula-
tion from herself to Mr. Nakasone should
be despatched, but would like the second
paragraph to begin with the words
"I attach great importance .....".

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 November 1982

Prime Minister

Yes *not* *Agree message to*
Mr. Nakasone?
A.J.C. 29/11.

Dear John,

Message to Mr Nakasone

Your letter of 25 November recorded the Prime Minister's agreement to the terms of a message to the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Suzuki, on his retirement.

The Japanese Diet have now confirmed the appointment of Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone as Mr Suzuki's successor, following Mr Nakasone's overwhelming success in the intra-party elections held by the Liberal Democratic Party. Tokyo telegrams Nos 711 and 712, which you have seen, give HM Ambassador's assessment of Mr Nakasone's position. Sir H Cortazzi concludes that he should be a marked improvement on Mr Suzuki, but strikes a warning note about his consistency and the extent of opposition to him within the LDP. In practice it is unlikely that Japanese policy will change very markedly under Mr Nakasone's guidance, given the need for him to balance the views of the various factions within the ruling party.

I enclose a draft telegram containing the text of a message of congratulation to Mr Nakasone from the Prime Minister and should be grateful to know if this meets with Mrs Thatcher's approval.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

OUT TELEGRAM

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1   ZCZC
2   GRS
3   PRIORITY
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5
6   FM FCO
7   TO PRIORITY TOKYO
8   TELEGRAM NUMBER
9   FCO TELNO 558:   PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO MR NAKASONE
10  1.   Please now deliver the following message from the Prime
11  Minister to Mr Nakasone.
12  BEGINS:   I send you my warmest congratulations on your assumption
13  of the high office of Prime Minister of Japan.
14      I attach ~~the highest~~ great importance to close and friendly
15  relations between our two countries and was glad of the
16  opportunity to visit Japan in September as a demonstration of
17  this relationship.  I am sure that we shall have many
18  opportunities to meet, and I look forward to continuing and
19  increasing co-operation with the Japanese Government under your
20  leadership.    ENDS
21
22  PYM
23  NNNN
24
25
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