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4 January 1983

Arab League Visit

As you know, the Prime Minister wrote to Lord Chalfont on 22 December thanking him for the efforts which he had recently made on the Government's behalf with King Hassan of Morocco. I enclose a copy of Lord Chalfont's reply.

John Coles

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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From The Rt Hon the Lord Chalfont OBE MC

Prime Minister 2



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The Rt Hon Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
10 Downing Street
London SW1

29 December 1982

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Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for your letter of 22nd December. I am fully in support of your policy in this matter, and was happy to be able to make some small contribution to clearing up the misunderstanding which obviously existed in the mind of King Hassan.

I very much hope that everything will now go smoothly. It was very thoughtful of you to take the trouble to write.

With best wishes for 1983.

Yours sincerely,

John Chalfont

Arabs League Delegation : P.M. Aug 20





cc FCO

Morocco B

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

22 December 1982

Dear Lord Chalfont,

I understand from Francis Pym that your recent mission to Morocco was a great success. I should like you to know how grateful we were that you agreed to give up your valuable time to undertake this delicate and important task. We were extremely fortunate in having available at the right time someone with such good contacts in Morocco and with such ready access to the King.

Your visit has helped improve the atmosphere of Anglo/Moroccan relations and to prepare the way for the possible reinstatement of the Arab League visit. You know the problems we face on the PLO issue and we have no illusions as to the difficulties the matter poses for the Arab side, but we will shortly be putting to King Hassan compromise proposals on which we hope he will be able to secure the agreement of his colleagues, and which will allow the visit to go ahead. We have stressed throughout that we attach great importance to our relations with Morocco. I hope very much that we can agree on a suitable programme.

Thank you again for your valuable contribution to this important exercise.

Every good wish

Yours sincerely

Raymond Richards HC

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Chalfont, OBE, MC.