

John Cole

It is a matter of FACE!

AW

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

Sir Alan Walters,
Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1

26 October 1983

Dear Sir Alan,

I remember with great fondness the meeting I had with you, and the valuable discussion that ensued, when I accompanied MITI Minister Uno on his visit to the United Kingdom last July.

The occasion of my present letter to you is the forthcoming Japanese Market Access Promotion Mission's visit to the United Kingdom.

On behalf of the Japanese Government, I would like to ask you to enquire of the Prime Minister whether it would be possible to give Mr. Mimura, President of Mitsubishi Corporation and the Mission leader, the very great honour of meeting the Prime Minister herself. As I understand Mr. Mimura will be carrying Mr. Nakasone's personal letter to the Prime Minister, such an opportunity would provide a suitably auspicious occasion to deliver the letter by hand.

The Japanese Government sincerely believes that this Mission will have a profound effect on the future of world trade, and on the future of trade relations between our two countries in particular.

The Japanese Government would therefore be highly honoured if the Prime Minister could spare enough time out of her extremely busy schedule to meet with Mr. Mimura, in the same way as President Reagan honoured Mr. Yahiro, President of Mitsui & Co., Ltd. and leader of the Market Access Promotion Mission to the United States of America, by agreeing to meet him. I understand that Mr. Mimura would be prepared to meet the Prime Minister at any time that suits her convenience during his two-day visit to the United Kingdom.

I hope sincerely that this meeting, which we in MITI believe is so central to our two countries' national interests, can take

place.

I would, therefore, be grateful if you would disclose the contents of this letter to the Prime Minister. Thank you in advance for your help and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Masuo Shibata

Masuo Shibata
Director General,
International Trade Policy Bureau
MITI

9/26 10



M. Howe

PS/Secretary of State

cc Mr Roberts
Mr Dunning

I had judged it right to protect the Prime Minister from Mr Mimura, whose mission will only be here for two days and can hardly be regarded as likely to create a breakthrough in our exporters' access to the Japanese market. I have reported to our Embassy in Tokyo that I judged it sufficient if the Secretary of State received Mr Mimura and they did not dissent. An earlier mission headed by another industrial leader, visited the USA and was seen by President Reagan and Mr Mimura evidently wants the same treatment.

2 The FCC ask that we consult No 10. I see no need to do so other than in the sense that the Prime Minister might be interested in meeting the head of Mitsubishi who is here to try to persuade British industry that Japan is not a closed market. This should not be regarded as a priority engagement and we would not suggest more than a ten-minute call. I do not regard the carriage of a letter to Mrs Thatcher as bestowing a right of entry to No 10, and if Mr Mimura cannot manage a time convenient to the Prime Minister, that should be an end to the matter.

Suzanne J Chapman

*cc sent to Mr Dunning
FCC*

4/1/83

SPS/G R SUNDERLAND
US/OT2
V/530
25 October 1983

(Dictated but not signed personally owing to absence)

Mr Sunderland
PS/SoS

cc Mr Dunning
Mr Foster

JAPANESE MARKET ACCESS PROMOTION MISSION ON CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER

Please see the attached letter from FED/FCO. Although we did not feel it necessary for the Mission leader (Mr Y Mimura - President of Mitsubishi Corporation) to meet the Prime Minister in view of the meeting already arranged for the Mission to call on the Secretary of State, we have been somewhat outflanked.

In view of the intervention of the Japanese Ambassador, the fact that Mr Mimura will be carrying a personal letter from the Japanese Prime Minister and that No 10 has already indicated that Mrs Thatcher could receive Mr Mimura, albeit with some difficulty, on the evening of 15 November perhaps you will feel that we should go along.

If you agree, perhaps PS/SoS could consult the Prime Minister's office. The Mission were I believe planning to leave for Brussels on 15 November at 16.05. Consequently if the Prime Minister is prepared to make time available during the evening of the 15th the Mission leader will need to adjust his schedule to catch a later flight. Early evening would therefore be preferable.

f.
R S HOWE
EJU
V/349
215.3267
21st October 1983



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 233 3259

R S Howe Esq
EJU
Department of Trade & Industry
1 Victoria St
LONDON
SW1H 0ET

Your reference

Our reference FEJ 121/1

Date 21 October 1983

Dear Ron,

JAPANESE MARKET ACCESS PROMOTION MISSION

1. We have now received representations on a number of levels from the Japanese asking for a call to be arranged on the Prime Minister by Mr Mimura, the leader of the Japanese Market Access Promotion Mission. It is said that Mr Mimura will carry with him a personal message from Mr Nakasone to Mrs Thatcher.
2. The Japanese Ambassador and the head of Mitsubishi in London raised this question with the Secretary of State on 19 October when they met at the Japan Society dinner. Sir G Howe undertook to pursue the question. Masuda, the Mitsubishi number two in London, called on FED yesterday to reinforce the message. Arai of the Japanese Embassy telephoned me today, on his Ambassador's instructions, to hammer the message home and Masuda has spoken to our Private Office. In the latter cases we have said to our interlocutors that this is primarily a matter for the DTI and that we would pass on their representations for your consideration.
3. Our own Private Office have checked with Number 10 Downing Street whether the Prime Minister could receive Mr Mimura. It appears that she could, with some difficulty, arrange to see him in the evening of 15 November. I would not wish to express an opinion as to whether Mr Mimura should see Mrs Thatcher. This is more for you, but considering the Prime Minister's interest in Anglo-Japanese trade and since these representations have been made at Ambassador to Secretary of State level, I feel that your Department should consult the Prime Minister's office.

Yours sincerely,

M D Uden
Far Eastern Department

cc: Mr Ricketts, Private Office
Mr Warren, ECD(E)

x *Re: The Mimi deposit for
Brevels on 15/10 at 16.00*