

CONFIDENTIAL

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 August 1983

Dear Tim,

Thankyou
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Pre Martin

To note

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Chad: Arms Sales

The Prime Minister may wish to be aware that Mr Raison, in the absence of Sir Geoffrey Howe, has approved the sale of ten 'Blowpipe' missile launchers and 100 missiles to a French company on behalf of the French Ministry of External Relations, who intend to give the equipment as soon as possible to the Government of Chad. The sale, worth some £2 million, will be by Short Bros, not HMG, though five of the launchers and the missiles will be released to Short Bros from the Ministry of Defence. The missiles are of a type now obsolete in the British Army.

The deal includes a small training element, which will be done by Short Bros staff, probably in the United Kingdom; it is a condition of sale that Shorts should not do this in Chad.

There is no reason to expect the deal to become public, but if it does we shall take our usual line that we do not comment on individual arms sales.

I am copying this to Richard Mottram (MOD).

Yours ever

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

T Flesher Esq
10 Downing St



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10 DOWNING STREET

12 August 1983

From the Private Secretary

Adm. Sec.

This is just to record that the Prime Minister has seen and noted your letter of 10 August about arms sales to Chad.

Timothy Flesher

Timothy Flesher

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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