

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 December, 1984.

Message of congratulations to Indian Prime Minister

Thank you for your letter of 28 December to Charles Powell. As you know, the Prime Minister approved an amended version of the message of congratulations to Mr. Gandhi, which has been despatched.

BF || The purpose of the amendments made by the Prime Minister was to leave open the possibility that dates may yet be found for a visit by Mr. Gandhi in June. As you say, the early part of the month is fully occupied, either because of Mr. Gandhi's own travel plans, or because of visits by Zhao Ziyang, and the Mexican President. Nevertheless, and despite other pressures on her diary, the Prime Minister would in principle be willing to receive Mr. Gandhi later in June, say in the week beginning 17 June, after his visit to the United States. I should be grateful if this possibility could be urgently explored, without commitment at this stage.

David Barclay

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

CC MASTER
OPS.

SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 213/84

filed on:
INDIA: Relations: Pt 4.

RESTRICTED

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DD 290330Z NEW DELHI
GRS 166
RESTRICTED
DESKBY 290330Z
FM FCO 281800Z DEC 84
TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI
TELEGRAM NUMBER 978 OF 29 DECEMBER

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER
TO RAJIV GANDHI:

BEGINS

QUOTE I EXTEND TO YOU MY WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
RESOUNDING ELECTION VICTORY, AND MY HEART-FELT WISHES THAT
YOUR GOVERNMENT MAY SUCCESSFULLY LEAD THE PEOPLE OF INDIA
TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

FOR MY PART, I HOPE THAT YOU AND I MAY BE ABLE TO CONSULT
CLOSELY TOGETHER OVER THE PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONT OUR TWO
COUNTRIES AND THE WHOLE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THEREBY
CONTINUING THE TRADITION WHICH YOUR FAMILY SO SPLENDIDLY
BEGAN AND MAINTAINED.

AS YOU KNOW, I VERY MUCH HOPE TO WELCOME YOU HERE IN 1985.
I AM, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT YOU WILL BE VERY BUSY IN INDIA
DURING THE EARLY MONTHS OF THE YEAR: AND UNFORTUNATELY MY OWN
DIARY IS ALSO VERY FULL IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR,
BUT I AM SURE THAT SIR ROBERT WADE-GERY
AND YOUR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY COULD ARRANGE MUTUALLY CONVENIENT
DATES.

ENDS

HOWE

LIMITED

SAD

NEWS D

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

MR WILSON

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RESTRICTED



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Prime Minister:

London SW1A 2AH

Agree to the attached amended drafts?

28 December, 1984

Dear Charles,

TR 28/12

What about 17-21 June

and after me

Message of Congratulations to Indian Prime Minister

Charles Powell wrote to our Resident Clerk on 24 December enclosing the text of a message from the Prime Minister, to be despatched following announcement of the election results. On reflection we would see advantage in the Prime Minister making some reference in her message to the invitation to Rajiv Gandhi to visit the UK during 1985 which she extended during Mrs Gandhi's funeral. Mr Gandhi's Principal Secretary has now confirmed to Sir R Wade-Gery that Mr Gandhi has the invitation much in mind. Dr Alexander suggested that dates in June before Mr Gandhi's visit to France (7-10 June) or between that visit and one to the United States (15-17 June) might be possible.

10-15

The slot in early June has, however, already been allocated to Zhao Ziyang and the Mexican President will be here on a State Visit from 11-18 June. Charles Powell indicated in his letter of 14 December that the next available dates would be 16 October. In the present state of Indo-British relations, the absence of an invitation for June might be misunderstood by the Indians unless we take an early opportunity to indicate an alternative date. I therefore enclose a revised draft message of congratulations to Mr Gandhi on his anticipated election victory, which incorporates such an invitation. The announcement of the result is likely to come overnight. If it was possible to obtain the Prime Minister's agreement in the course of today, that would enable us to get the message off as soon as the result is declared.

Newly have 7-10

Should read 11-14

You might just like to note that the October dates given in Charles Powell's letter (16 October) could clash with CHOGM, for which one of the set of dates still being canvassed - and indeed our preferred dates - is 17-21 October.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM

Reference

Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Shri Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of the Republic of
India

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

I extend to you my warmest congratulations on your ~~(resounding)~~ election victory, and my heart-felt wishes that your Government may successfully lead the people of India to peace and prosperity.

For my part, I hope that you and I may be able to consult closely together over the problems which confront our two countries and the whole international community thereby continuing the tradition which your family so splendidly began and maintained.

As you know, I very much hope to welcome you here in 1985. I am, of course, aware that you will be very busy in India during the early ^{months} part of the year; and ~~unfortunately~~ my own diary is ^{also} very full in the first half of the year. ~~If, however, a visit~~ in October were to be convenient to you, I should be delighted to see you here then. } Sir Robert

Enclosures—flag(s).....

Wade-Gery and your Principal Secretary could ~~be~~ asked to arrange mutually convenient dates, ^{and}

*but - from Wade-Gery
to Sir Robert*

~~to be good with the ... your family
on the ... your great task.~~



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 December, 1984.

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Indian Elections

You wrote to Tim Flesher on 22 December enclosing a contingency draft message from the Prime Minister to Rajiv Gandhi, to be sent following the Indian elections.

I enclose a version of the message as approved by the Prime Minister, which should be held for despatch following announcement of the election results.

Charles Powell

The Resident Clerk,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO SHRI RAJIV GANDHI,
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

I extend to you my warmest congratulations on your [resounding] election victory, and my heart-felt wishes that your Government may successfully lead the people of India to peace and prosperity.

For my part, I hope that you and I may be able to consult closely together over the problems which confront our two countries and the whole international community thereby continuing the tradition which your family so splendidly began and maintained.

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
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- Unclassified

Shri Rajiv Gandhi
Prime Minister of the
Republic of India

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

I extend to you my warmest congratulations on your [resounding] election victory, and my heart-felt wishes that your Government may successfully lead the people of India to peace and prosperity.

For my part, I hope that you and I may be able to consult closely together over the problems which confront our two

countries and the whole international community, and that ~~we may continue to work together~~ ~~our relationship will be as [confidential and sincere] as that which I was fortunate enough to enjoy with your mother [whose loss we continue to feel],~~ ~~whose memory will live long amongst us.~~

which you family so splendidly began and maintained.

THEREBY CONTINUING THE TRADITION WHICH YOUR FAMILY SO SPLENDIDLY BEGAN AND MAINTAINED

Enclosures—flag(s).....

CONFIDENTIAL

cepc



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 December 1984

T Flesher Esq
No 10 Downing Street

*Action taken
22/11/84*

Dear Flesher,

The Indian general elections take place on 24-28 December: we are unlikely to know the results until 28 December at the earliest. But all the indications are that Rajiv Gandhi and Congress (I) will be returned to power, possibly with a substantial majority. This is also Sir Robert Wade-Gery's expectation. (New Delhi telegram no 1074, attached).

I enclose a draft message of congratulation from the Prime Minister for issue when the result is announced.

Yours sincerely,

*Steward Cooper-Coles
Resident Clerk*

for C R Budd
Private Secretary

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