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THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

LIMITED

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
President: H.R.H. THE DUKE OF KENT
Chairman: F.A. MILLICHIP

General Secretary:
E.A. CROKER



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Our Ref: EAC/PFS/435

Your Ref:

29th July 1985.

BY HAND

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

Will you please accept my sincere apology for not attending the meeting tomorrow. I have today returned from a five day visit to Malaysia, to take part in a Seminar attended by senior football officials from the various States and run in connection with an international football tournament. I accepted the invitation from the President of their Football Association, the former King of Malaysia, following lengthy discussions about a reconstruction of their football system and it would have made difficulties if they had to change the plans and try and arrange for another main speaker at short notice. It is obviously particularly important right now to retain our footballing friends throughout the world.

This has meant that the only week that my wife and I have been able to arrange for a holiday is starting tomorrow and our flight to Crete leaves at 6.40 a.m. I have to be back before the Charity Shield Match at Wembley on 10th August and my attempt to arrange a later flight tomorrow has proved unsuccessful. The League programme starts on 17th August, so a later holiday is impossible and the problems of football have not allowed an earlier holiday.

I do so regret not being able to attend, but my wife and I really feel in need of a break before the season starts.

Yours sincerely,

E.A. Croker

E.A. Croker
General Secretary

c.c. Mr. N. Macfarlane, M.P.
Mr. F.A. Millichip