

FILE

VS

Chile

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cc FCO  
MOD  
D/T

31 March 1980

Thank you for your letter of 12 March with which you enclosed a copy of one from the British Marine Equipment Council about the sale of defence equipment to Chile.

I was interested to hear of your contacts with members of the Chilean Government last year. I understand your concern, and that of BMEC, about the continuing embargo on arms sales and the loss of possible trade to competitors.

As you say, we have recently restored diplomatic relations to Ambassadorial level. This was an essential first step towards a wider review of our relations with Chile. I can assure you that we shall be considering carefully other aspects of policy, including the arms embargo and the question of the appointment of a Defence Attache.

(SGD) MARGARET THATCHER

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