



EMBAIXADA DE PORTUGAL

Copied to :-  
EURO FOR: Enlargement.  
March 1980

MESSAGE

**PRIME MINISTER'S**  
**PERSONAL MESSAGE**  
**SERIAL No. T142/80**  
**SUBJECT**

Dear Prime Minister,

A decision is to be taken by the Council of Ministers of the EEC next Tuesday, the 22nd of July, in Brussels, on pre-accession aid to Portugal.

You will recall that the Portuguese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs talked about this during the official meeting with you on the 19th May, in Downing Street.

All the details are well known to your government, but I would like to stress how important it is for us that a positive decision is taken.

Full democracy and stability in Portugal are not yet entirely achieved and we very much need to reinforce them with a clear and positive act of European solidarity in order to strengthen our economic and social structures.

After President Giscard's statements, which have had a very negative impact on Portuguese public opinion, if we get now a negative decision on pre-accession aid I very much fear for the whole idea of Europe and of our integration in the EEC. We invested a lot, politically, in this issue because the whole concept of pre-accession aid was first suggested to us by the EEC itself and therefore we never thought that a veto could be subsequently possible at the moment of the final decision.

We have, however, been informed that the only member country who might oppose a positive decision next week in Brussels is Britain.

I don't need of course to stress to you how big a damage it would cause to the long lasting friendship and alliance between Britain and Portugal that an eventual veto on pre-accession aid to Portugal should come from Britain.

I am sure you fully understand the meaning and implications of this issue. I ask you to look at it in a favourable way and to give a positive answer to our case. I entirely count on your solidarity towards Portugal.

Yours sincerely,

Francisco Sa Carneiro  
Prime Minister of Portugal

15 July 1980

file cc: CO

1812

BF 18/7.80

15 July 1980

I enclose a copy of a message received by the Prime Minister this afternoon from the Prime Minister of Portugal. I should be grateful for the draft of a reply which the Prime Minister might send to Dr. Sa Carneiro. It would be helpful if this could reach me by close of play on Friday 18 July.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

File 512

15 July 1980

Thank you for your letter of today's date covering a message to the Prime Minister from the Portuguese Prime Minister. I have of course drawn Dr. Sa Carneiro's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Senhor J.M. de Macedo



EMBAIXADA DE PORTUGAL

London, 15th July, 1980

Proc. 2,212

No. .... 40

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a message received by telex today, the 15th, from the Portuguese Prime Minister with instructions that the message should be forwarded immediately to the British Prime Minister.

I would, therefore, be most grateful if you could bring the said text to the attention of the Prime Minister as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

(J. M. de Macedo)

Counsellor

The Private Secretary,  
Office of the Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London, S.W.1.



Portugal

10 DOWNING STREET

NOTE FOR TOP OF FILE.

Any further papers on Pre-  
Accession aid to Portugal  
to go on Euro. Pol.

May 79  
~~March 1980~~ : Enlargement of  
the European Community.

25. 7. 80