



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 May 1983

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 Jaw Khan

MS
 Prime Minister

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Message from President Mubarak

I enclose a letter from President Mubarak addressed to the Prime Minister which the Egyptian Ambassador delivered to Lord Belstead today. The letter covers the Economic Summit at Williamsburg and the Middle East. The Ambassador said that similar letters were being sent to other Heads of Government participating in the Williamsburg Summit.

On economic questions, President Mubarak commends to the Prime Minister's attention the plight of the least developed countries. His message is uncontroversial. He is notably moderate in his expression of hope that the UNCTAD meeting in June will be constructive and practical. He is also complimentary about the recent Leeds Castle seminar on UNCTAD and about Mr Pym's views on the Brandt Report.

On the Middle East, President Mubarak's views on the continuing presence of foreign forces in Lebanon and the expansion of Israeli settlements on the West Bank are similar to our own. He also states unequivocally that negotiations on the Palestinian problem will not be possible until after the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Lebanon.

We shall let you have a draft reply from the Prime Minister to President Mubarak after the Williamsburg meeting.

MS
 (J E Holmes)
 Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
 10 Downing Street

SUBJECT

cc MASTER
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الرئيس

The President

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 70^A / 83**

Dear Prime Minister Thatcher,

In writing to Your Excellency, I am guided by Your sincere keenness on resolving the world economic crisis as demonstrated on several occasions, the most recent being the United Kingdom's invitation to some countries, both advanced and developing, to attend the Leeds Castle Conference last April, which was an invaluable opportunity for a frank and constructive exchange of views. In this regard, I would like to refer to the positive deliberations at the British House of Commons during the discussion of the "Brandt Memorandum" and to Mr. Charles Pym's keenness on the interests of developing nations whose trade volume with the U.K. represents 20% of the latter's total trade volume. We were impressed by his emphasis on the inevitability of interdependence and the necessity of its observance as a prerequisite for an effective solution to world economic crises.

Inspired by this spirit of cooperation, and keen on keeping the tradition we have established to consult and exchange views on matters of common interest, I have deemed it appropriate to share with you a few thoughts on the occasion of the forthcoming Economic Conference at Williamsburg.

*The President*

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The whole world is today afflicted with a serious economic crisis. You would agree with me that the adverse impact of this crisis is more clearly felt in the developing nations due to their weak economic structures. In view of this situation, the international community is called upon to coordinate its efforts towards finding practical solutions to this crisis, the persistence of which will undoubtedly constitute a serious threat to world peace and stability. I wish to emphasize that the whole world pins great hopes on the outcome of your important Summit.

I am fully confident that interdependence in the international economic life in general, and in resolving its problems in particular, has become a unanimously accepted principle over which there is no dispute whatsoever. Therefore, if there remains any differences, They are ones of approach and not of principle. I believe that the ample opportunities which Williamsburg Meeting affords for the discussion of international economic problems should be seized with a view to reaching an understanding concerning the measures to be taken so as to mitigate the impact of the current economic crisis, particularly in the developing nations which no longer have a "margin" that could allow them to bear more burdens.



The President

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I need not dwell on the lamentable conditions of developing nations as I am certain you are fully aware of the real dimensions of the crisis and its potential consequences. Egypt has consistently advocated alleviating the problem through a constructive and frank dialogue between the industrialized countries and developing nations. In this regard, I would like to point out the plight of the least developed nations, the vast majority of which exist in the African Continent. Those countries exert desperate efforts to maintain their livelihood.

I am confident that you share these views with me and that you will spare no effort to reflect this spirit in the deliberations of your Meeting.

In the second week of June. I shall address the UNCTAD Meeting. The thrust of our efforts will be to advocate cooperation and the reconciliation of interests rather than collision or polarization. We aspire to reach agreement on a formula for promoting cooperation among nations and to come out with a package of practical solutions to come to grips with world economic problems which no one can evade or solve in isolation.



The President

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الرئيس

Dear Friend,

I am certain that you are well aware of the latest developments in the Middle East. To our regret, peace is being endangered and tension is rapidly rising to the detriment of all the peoples of the region. We cannot allow this state of affairs to continue, for peace is at stake. Having worked so hard and taken great risks for a lasting and comprehensive peace in the area, we feel duty-bound to exert every effort in order to put the situation back on the track and persuade all the parties concerned to seek a peaceful settlement through negotiations.

Since Israeli forces invaded Lebanon in June 1982, we have strongly demanded an immediate Israeli withdrawal as a necessary step for normalizing the situation in the region and paving the way for the resumption of peace efforts. Unfortunately, certain obstacles appear to block that withdrawal for the time being, thus dealing a devastating blow to our mission. We are sparing no effort to remedy that situation. We do so in view of the fact that any prolongation of the status quo in Lebanon would certainly mean strengthening attempts to impose a de-facto partition of that state and sow dissension and strife among its peace-loving people. The damage to



The President

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the cause of peace would be immeasurable.

So long as this problem is not eliminated, it would not be possible to start the negotiations on the Palestinian problem which is the crux of the entire conflict. The negative impact of this development can be appreciated if we consider the effect of the Israeli settlement policy. Together with the repressive measures taken by the Israeli authorities in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, such policy is dimming the hope of the Palestinian people in a just and lasting peace. Without this hope, it would be most difficult to begin the negotiations. The end result would be to miss another opportunity to effect a historic reconciliation between Israel and the Arabs. Undoubtedly, this would mean hurting the cause of world peace and stability, for it has been well-established that the prosperity of many nations in the different corners of the globe is closely linked to peace and stability in the Middle East.

We shall continue our endeavor in order to regain the momentum for peace and overcome these obstacles. I am sure you will do the same. I would be pleased to continue these consultations with you until we achieve our goals.

With all best wishes in your present endeavour.

Sincerely,

Mohammed Hosni Mubarak

Her Excellency Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

