

SUBJECT

ce Mahat +  
One

(9)

Malaysia

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T7A/83

TOP COPY

see (11)

GRS 150  
RESTRICTED  
FM F C O 271838Z JAN 83  
TO PRIORITY KUALA LUMPUR  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 22 OF 27 JANUARY.

RESTRICTED

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO DR MAHATHIR FROM THE PRIME MINISTER:

'MY DEAR PRIME MINISTER  
IT WAS, I KNOW, AS MUCH OF A DISAPPOINTMENT TO YOU AS IT WAS TO ME THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO MEET WHEN YOU PASSED THROUGH LONDON LAST OCTOBER. I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MAY BE IN LONDON AGAIN SOON, PERHAPS IN MARCH OR APRIL. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL HAVE PRIVATE MATTERS TO ATTEND TO, BUT I DO HOPE THAT THIS TIME WE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE ONE ANOTHER AND I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND TO YOU MY INVITATION TO SPEND AT LEAST A DAY OR TWO WITH US AS A GUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT DATES WOULD BEST SUIT YOU, ONCE YOU HAVE FIRMED UP YOUR PLANS.

'MARGARET THATCHER'

PYM

STANDARD

SEAD

FAT 026/1		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
31 JAN 1983		
WORK OFFICER		
INDEX	PA	Stamp Taken
		✓ T7A

RESTRICTED

HL  
Malaysia

26 January 1983

Thank you for your letter of 25 January to John Coles about the forthcoming visit of the Malaysian Prime Minister to London. The Prime Minister has agreed that the proposed message to Dr. Mahathir should be sent and I should be grateful if you could make arrangements for its despatch.

Tim Flesher

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

HL

610



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Prime Minister

London SW1A 2AH

Agree to send the letter  
message to the Malaysian  
Prime Minister?

25 January 1983

A.S.C. <sup>25</sup>/<sub>11</sub>

Yes  
mt

Dear John,

Visit of Malaysian Prime Minister

You will recall our abortive efforts last autumn to set up a lunch for the Malaysian Prime Minister when he was passing through London on his way back from the UN General Assembly. (I enclose copies of Mrs Thatcher's exchange of messages with Dr Mahathir).

We heard from Sir Donald Hawley (formerly High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur and now Chairman of Ewbank Preece Ltd) who had a long and friendly session with Dr Mahathir in Kuala Lumpur before Christmas, that the latter was thinking of coming to London in March or April for his son's graduation.

We continue to believe that a meeting between the two Prime Ministers could do much to restore UK/Malaysia relations. Without such a meeting, this goal can probably not be achieved. The way has already been paved by the steady, if slow, improvement in the atmosphere over the past six months or so and by the visit to London in early December of the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, who was entertained by Mr Whitelaw (and enjoyed it very much).

Mr Pym, therefore, strongly recommends that the Prime Minister should send a further message to Dr Mahathir inviting him to be her guest when he comes to London. We cannot be sure that the dates will be convenient. But the worst that could happen is that Dr Mahathir will, again, politely decline. The absence of an invitation on the other hand would almost inevitably be construed as confirmation that we do not really care about Malaysia. This would be unfortunate at a time when, in Mr Bentley's judgement and our own, there is a real prospect of further progress.

Yours ever

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

DSR 11 (Revised)

**DRAFT:** minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

**TYPE:** Draft/Final 1+

**FROM:**

Reference

PRIME MINISTER

**DEPARTMENT:**

**TEL. NO:**

**SECURITY CLASSIFICATION**

**TO:**

Your Reference

Top Secret  
Secret  
Confidential  
Restricted  
Unclassified

Dr Mahathir

**Copies to:**

**PRIVACY MARKING**

**SUBJECT:** MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO DR MAHATHIR

.....In Confidence

**CAVEAT**.....

It was, I know, as much of a disappointment to you as it was to me that we were unable to meet when you passed through London last October. I understand that you may be in London again soon, perhaps in March or April. I know that you will have private matters to attend to, but I do hope that this time we will be able to see one another and I would like to extend to you my invitation to spend at least a day or two with us as a guest of the Government.

Please let me know what dates would best suit you, once you have firmed up your plans.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

(44)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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OO KUALA LUMPUR DESKBY 140200Z

GRS 155

CONFIDENTIAL  
DESKBY 140200Z  
FM FCO 131720Z SEP 82  
TO IMMEDIATE KUALA LUMPUR  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 309 OF 13 SEPTEMBER.

YOUR TELNO 358: <sup>(39)</sup> VISIT OF DR MAHATHIR

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO DR MAHATHIR'S OFFICE.

'I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WILL BE PAYING A PRIVATE VISIT TO LONDON EARLY IN OCTOBER ON YOUR WAY HOME FROM THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO WHILE YOU ARE HERE BUT IF IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT TO YOU I SHOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME THE CHANCE TO SEE YOU. I HAVE A DIFFICULTY IN THAT, FOLLOWING A LONG VISIT TO THE FAR EAST FROM 16 TO 29 SEPTEMBER, I HAVE TO DEVOTE THE WEEKEND OF 2/3 OCTOBER TO PREPARATION FOR THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE. WOULD THERE BE ANY CHANCE OF YOUR ADVANCING YOUR ARRIVAL IN LONDON IN ORDER TO LUNCH WITH ME AT NO. 10 DOWNING STREET ON FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER? I SHOULD BE DELIGHTED IF YOU COULD MANAGE THAT.'

PYM

DIST:  
STANDARD  
S E A D

COPIES TO:  
P S/NO.10 DOWNING ST.  
MR DUNNING, OT2/2, D O T.

<p>REF-353/1</p> <p>15 SEP 1982</p> <p>✓</p>
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

(32)

TOP COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 100  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FM KUALA LUMPUR 170845Z SEP 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 375 OF 17 SEPTEMBER

YOUR TELNO 309: VISIT OF MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER

1. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ASKED ME TO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE  
TO NO 10. BEGINS  
DEAR PRIME MINISTER  
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR INVITATION TO LUNCH. I DO APPRECIATE  
YOUR DIFFICULTY BUT MUCH AS I WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY OF  
MEETING YOU, I AM UNABLE TO REARRANGE MY SCHEDULE IN ORDER TO BE  
IN LONDON EARLIER. I AM SURE THERE WILL BE OTHER OCCASIONS  
WHEN YOU WOULD NOT BE SO PRESSED.  
KIND REGARDS

WHITE  
STANDARD)  
SEAD)

COPIES TO:  
MR DUNNING,  
OT2/2 D.O.T.

CONFIDENTIAL

FAF 353/1  
RECEIVED  
20 SEP 1982