

Subject cc master
eps

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T146 C/84
PRIME MINISTER
MALAYSIA



20th August 1984

The Right Hon'ble Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of United Kingdom
and Northern Ireland,
LONDON

Dear Prime Minister,

1. I have the honour to inform that the Government of Malaysia has decided to terminate referrals to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council of appeals from the Federal Court of Malaysia with effect from 1st January 1985.

2. However, this does not preclude the Privy Council from continuing to hear cases that are pending before the Council. In order to formalise the latter it would be necessary to amend the Federation of Malaya (Appeals to Privy Council) Order in Council 1985 of the United Kingdom (S.I. 1958 No. 426) of 4 March 1958.

3. In so far as my Government is concerned, necessary steps will be taken to amend Part IV of the Courts of Judicature Act 1964 to provide for transitional provisions in respect of cases still pending with the Privy Council.

4. It will also be necessary to revoke the Agreement of 4 March 1958 between our Governments so that no new cases will be referred to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council after 31 December 1984.



5. The relevant provisions of the Constitution of Malaysia authorising appeals to the Privy Council have been repealed but will not be brought into effect until after all the pending cases have been reviewed by the Judicial Committee.

6. I am instructing my Ministry of Foreign Affairs to take the necessary steps to finalize the above details through an exchange of Notes with the British High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

7. I would like to express the hope that the exchange of Notes can take place as speedily as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mahathir', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves back down.

(DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD)