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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

*I prefer change to reply -
especially if 37 am
to deliver have been
released not*

23 February 1981

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Prime Minister

*Hardly worth reading, but you
may wish to glance.*

Dear Michael,

And

Message from the Iranian Prime Minister

I enclose a copy of a message addressed to the Prime Minister from Mr Rajae the Iranian Prime Minister. The message contains an extreme - and entirely predictable - statement of Iran's present political difficulties, and of the hostility shown to it by other countries. The message has been timed to coincide with the second anniversary of the Iranian Revolution.

A similar message has been addressed by the Iranians to Heads of Government in many countries. We do not think that it merits a reply from the Prime Minister and we propose merely to acknowledge receipt to the Iranian Embassy in London, saying that its contents have been brought to the Prime Minister's attention.

Yours ever,

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing St

24 February 1981

Message from the Iranian Prime Minister

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 23 February and its enclosure. Despite the wording of Mr. Rajae's message, the Prime Minister believes that it should be acknowledged in her name. I should be grateful if you could arrange this.

MODBA

~~BF for Fed~~

copied by

letter

E.N. Richards, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CS

subject

Master
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T32/81

Unofficial translation

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 32/81

In the name of God, the Compassionate and the Merciful

"Those who convey the Almighty's messages and fear God, and do not fear anybody but God, and only God is adequate for them, as the judge of all persons and deeds."

(Quran: Sura 33, Verse 39)

Your Excellency:

It gives me great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency and your people this message on the occasion of the second anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and to explain the position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As you are aware, the much suffering Muslim people of Iran have already gone through a glorious and bloody period in the long history of their struggle against world oppression. The former government regime of this country, except for a few short periods of time, was an absolute dictatorship.

Because of its special geographical position and natural resources, Iran has always drawn the attention of foreign plunderers and exploiters; and especially during the past century which marked the advancement of science and technology in other countries, this nation was subjected to the most tyrannical government in history, while trying to preserve its Islamic culture and human dignity. At the same time the dependent regime of the country was giving away the material and spiritual wealth of this land in order to keep itself in power.

The plunderers of this land, in conjunction with a treacherous element called the shah, had created an exceptionally lavish living standard for themselves, and by introducing assembly industries and ruining Iranian agriculture, which was once a source of foreign revenue for the country, they had destroyed the country's independence. By exploiting the country's considerable illiterate majority and promoting non-national and anti-religious imperialist culture, they prepared the ground for domination of foreigners over every walk of life of the nation. By creating a brutal and repressive police system and numerous prisons, the American regime of the shah had deprived the large majority of the people of this land from their most elementary rights and basic living requirements.

/...

The glorious uprising of the Iranian people, based on their profound beliefs in the establishment of a system of Islamic right and justice under the sound and popular leadership of Imam Khomeini, culminated in its victory in order to convey the message of independence and freedom to all the oppressed peoples of the world.

However, the Iranian Revolution inspired by the principles of the revolutionary Islamic ideology and by executing the motto of "neither Eastern nor Western", has upset the political, economic and military balance of the Superpowers. It was, therefore, natural that we should expect numerous plots against the Revolution from all over the country.

The Great Satan, i.e. the United States, which lost Iran as its most important base in the region, as well as its numerous privileges and resources in this country, naturally held a deep grudge against the Islamic Revolution of Iran, and accordingly began its intrigues and subversive activities against the Islamic Republic as its No. 1 enemy.

The former U.S. embassy in Tehran had been turned into a centre of intrigues and plots and a base for the operations of counter-revolutionaries. The anger of the Iranian people at these conspiracies and treacheries frequently resulted in bloody riots in various parts of the country. With the United States' decision to grant sanctuary to the criminal shah, these angers reached their zenith and resulted in the spontaneous and natural reaction of the people to occupy this centre of intrigues.

After the failure of its plots to stir up domestic disturbances in Iran, the U.S. government imposed economic sanctions; attempted a military attack; and finally drew up an abortive plan for a coup d'etat to overthrow the regime of the Islamic Republic. With the grace of the Almighty, however, all these intrigues and attempts were broken down.

The flagrant invasion of Iran by the Iraqi Baathist government could be called the latest in these long series of intrigues.

Under the baseless pretext of violation of the 1975 Algerian Agreement and its unilateral abrogation, the Iraqi regime, which is subservient to the U.S., invaded Iran by land, air and sea. The whole world known that the Iraqi government is an aggressor since its forces have been on Iranian territory since the beginning of the invasion. They have been savagely bombing, day and night, our residential areas, hospitals, mosques, and the defenceless civilian population; whereas our nation and its armed forces, inspired by Islamic principles, only defend their land and, in case of attack, they aim only at military and economic targets.

On behalf of the Islamic Government and people of Iran, I declare that we will resist the aggressors, even if the war should continue for a hundred years, and we will not allow our rights to be trampled upon.

But the failure of other countries, with the exception of a few, to condemn the aggressor government of Iraq cannot be understood by us.

Excellency: I invite you to undertake an independent and impartial study of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the changes resulting therefrom, and the war imposed on Iran by the Iraqi government, and prove in practice that in this wholly confused world of dependencies, if a nation tried to free itself from domination and stand on its own feet, and assert its sovereignty, that nation would not have to face these tribulations alone, but could count on high human values in a world where only economic considerations prevail.

In conclusion, in announcing the policy of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding mutual cooperation and friendship and non-interference in the internal affairs of others, and while condemning any kind of aggression, I hope for the further expansion of relations between our two countries based on respect for each other's sovereignty and bilateral amity between our two nations.

Respectfully Yours,

Mohammad Ali Rajai

Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

23/2/87