



10 DOWNING STREET

*Feb 11
c ho*

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 February 1985

*cc Mr. Tolson
CP*

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 725/85

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 21 January and the very kind invitation to attend the Second Pacific Islands Conference in Rarotonga in August.

The idea of a visit to the Cook Islands is most attractive but I am afraid that other engagements at that time make it impossible for me to attend. I am looking into the possibility of being represented at the Conference. We shall be in touch with you about this.

I send my best wishes for a successful conference.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Sir Thomas Davis, K.B.E.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 February 1985

Dear Charles,

Invitation for the Prime Minister to attend the Second Pacific Islands Conference

Thank you for your letter of 30 January.

The Cook Islands are a dependency of New Zealand, enjoying a very large measure of autonomy. We know very little of this Conference. The first was held in Honolulu in 1980, on the theme "Development The Pacific Way". It was attended by representatives from almost all the South Pacific islands (independent and dependent territories), the metropolitan powers, Japan and interested organisations and academics. Most regional countries sent Ministers or Heads of State. We were represented by our High Commissioner in Fiji.

Reports of the last conference indicated that it had been interesting and useful in some respects, but that the opinion of most leaders present was that the conference should not become a regular fixture, nor was there a need for another regional organisation based upon it.

We are most unlikely to recommend Ministerial representation at the Second Conference. We are seeking more information from posts in the region before reaching a decision on whether one of our High Commissioners should again represent the UK.

In the circumstances we suggest that the Prime Minister reply briefly on the lines of the enclosed draft. We would convey the approved text through our High Commissioner in Wellington, and keep the New Zealanders informed about the terms of our response.

*Yours ever,
Peter Ricketts*

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
No 10 Downing Street

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DRAFT: ~~XXXXX/letter/XXXXX/XXXXX/XXXXX~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT: TEL NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: Sir Thomas Davis KBE
Prime Minister of the Cook Islands

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

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The idea of a visit to the Cook Islands is most attractive but I am afraid that other engagements at that time make it impossible for me to attend. I am looking into the possibility of being represented at the Conference, which will, I am sure, be most interesting. We shall be in touch with you about this as soon as possible.

I send my best wishes for a successful conference.

PH.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

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Cook Islands Relations 1/85



18 FEB 1985



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 January 1985

I enclose a letter from the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands in which he invites the Prime Minister to attend the Second Pacific Islands Conference in Rarotonga from 7-10 August.

Temping as it is, the Prime Minister is otherwise engaged. It may however be appropriate to suggest that she should be represented. I should be grateful for advice and a draft reply.

EF

Charles Powell

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Prime Minister
Rarotonga Cook Islands

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 78485

21 January 1985

Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
House of Commons
London SW
ENGLAND

My dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the Ui Ariki, the people and government of the Cook Islands, it gives me great pleasure in formally inviting you to attend the Second Pacific Islands Conference which will be held in Rarotonga this year from August 7 - 10.

Leaders of governments from throughout the Pacific will be attending the conference. Your presence at the meeting will honour and reflect the spirit of co-operation that exists in the Pacific.

I look forward to welcoming you in Rarotonga.

Kia Manuia. Kia Orana.

Yours sincerely

Sir, Thomas Davis, ~~Pa~~ Tuterangi Ariki, KBE
PRIME MINISTER OF THE COOK ISLANDS

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Prime Minister
Rarotonga Cook Islands

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T8485

21 January 1985

Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
House of Commons
London SW
ENGLAND

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I look forward to welcoming you in Rarotonga.

Kia Manuia. Kia Orana.

Yours sincerely

Thomas Davis

Sir Thomas Davis, Pa Tuterangi Ariki, KBE
PRIME MINISTER OF THE COOK ISLANDS