

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 69 B .

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AIR CRASH IN SOUTH-EASTERN FRANCE

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER
TO PRESIDENT MITTERRAND.

BEGINS

I WAS VERY MUCH SADDENED TO HEAR THE NEWS OF THE PLANE CRASH
YESTERDAY EVENING IN SOUTH-EASTERN FRANCE. OUR OWN RECENT
EXPERIENCES IN BRITAIN HAVE BROUGHT HOME TO US THE SUFFERING
WHICH SUCH A TRAGEDY ENTAILS. PLEASE PASS MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY
TO ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS.

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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

11 April 1989

AIR CRASH IN SOUTH-EAST FRANCE

Bx P.
T

Thank you for your letter of 11 April proposing a draft reply for a message from the Prime Minister to President Mitterrand about yesterday's air crash in south-east France. I am sure the Prime Minister will want to send a message and I propose a slightly amended version of yours as follows:

"I was very much saddened to hear the news of the plane crash yesterday evening in south eastern France. Our own recent experiences in Britain have brought home to us the suffering which such a tragedy entails. Please pass my deepest sympathy to all the families of the victims."

C. D. POWELL

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

11 April 1989

Jean Charles,

Air Crash in South-East France

You asked for a message which the Prime Minister might send to President Mitterrand following the air crash in south-east France yesterday evening in which all passengers and crew were killed. (As far as we know, no Britons were involved but the flight list has not yet been released.)

"I was deeply shocked to hear the news of the plane crash yesterday evening in south-eastern France. Recent experiences have brought home to us in Britain the suffering and loss which such a tragedy entails. Please pass my deepest sympathy to all the families of the victims."

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street