

Subject cc OPS
master

TOP SECRET

LO4ACM

8

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL NO. T 52A/86

COPY 2 OF 2 COPIES

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO PRESIDENT REAGAN FROM PRIME MINISTER
THATCHER

Dear Ron,

Thank you so much for your delightful letter and for your kindness in sending Cap to brief me. I was immensely impressed by your ^{splendid} achievement: three cheers for America! I was also very touched by the generosity of the offer of participation which he brought. It brings home once again who our real friends are. We shall be following up the offer straightaway with the experts he has nominated. We shall continue to restrict knowledge very closely indeed on our side.

I am following very carefully your efforts with Congress over Nicaragua. All the reports indicate that it is becoming a more and more repressive regime.

I have just had a report from our representative on the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group on South Africa. I think the whole Group feel their mission offers a way through, perhaps a last chance to find a peaceful way through. It is important that you and I should work side by side to bring home to President Botha the need not to reject their suggestions for getting a dialogue started between the South African Government and black representatives. I shall be writing to you in more detail about this shortly.

It seems a long time since we had a really good talk and there is a great deal which requires discussion. I am so much looking forward to seeing you in Tokyo.

With warmest best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Margaret

17 March 1986

TOP SECRET