

DSS

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T83/86



We SUBJECT cc OPS
MASTER 5
cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

29 April 1986

Dear Prime Minister,

I had a first meeting with the new French Prime Minister at Chequers on 26 April. In the course of our discussions, M. Chirac raised the question of France's relations with New Zealand. He told me that he very much wished to find a solution to the problems which have arisen, and was anxious to pursue negotiations with you as soon as possible. He claimed, however, that he was finding it difficult to get such negotiations under way, and was anxious lest delay should lead to their being further complicated by extraneous issues.

M. Chirac asked for my assistance in establishing a discreet channel. If there are any points which you wish me to pass on to him on procedure, in order to facilitate the opening of discussions, I should be happy to do so. I do not, of course, seek to be involved in any way in the substance of any discussions, which must be entirely a matter between you and the French Government.

With best wishes,

*Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher*

The Rt. Hon. D. R. Lange

ECW

Secret and Personal

cdp spoke done 6/5/86

** 21 P. remind
reminders*

London SE1

1 May 1986

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C D Powell Esq
No 10

I will speak to Mr. Bujar in Tokyo

SUBJECT

CDD

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 783 AB/86**

Dear Charles,

FRANCE/NEW ZEALAND

We spoke. I attach a copy of the message received from our New Zealand colleagues. Peter Wallis will be forwarding it to the FCO in the normal way, with the suggestion that Harland should be briefed by the FCO, simply to the effect that there has been an exchange of letters between the Prime Ministers.

*cc Master
ops*

Yours ever,

Frank

A G Wilkinson

Secret and Personal

Secret and Personal

DEAR PRIME MINISTER

I AM GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR GIVING ME A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE COMMENTS MADE TO YOU ON FRANCE/NEW ZEALAND RELATIONS BY MONSIEUR CHIRAC.

I SHOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE AGREED WITH THE FRENCH TO RESTART TALKS ON THE DISPUTE. THEY WILL, I HOPE, LEAD TO A SETTLEMENT. BUT IT HAS BEEN VERY DIFFICULT FOR US TO ASCERTAIN JUST WHAT THE FRENCH HAD IN MIND AS A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS STILL NOT CLEAR BUT WE ARE PREPARED TO TALK TO SHOW THAT WE ARE SERIOUS IN OUR WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE.

THE TASK HAS NOT BEEN MADE ANY EASIER BY THE FRENCH USE OF QUITE ILLEGAL TRADE SANCTIONS AGAINST OUR EXPORTS.

YOU HAVE KINDLY OFFERED TO PASS ANY MESSAGE ON PROCEDURE TO MONSIEUR CHIRAC. AS THINGS HAVE MOVED AHEAD I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE THAT THAT IS NOT NECESSARY AT THIS POINT.

WITH BEST WISHES.

YOURS SINCERELY

DAVID LANGE

Secret and Personal

SECRET



Wle

EC

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

29 April 1986

**PRIME MINISTER'S WITH M. CHIRAC:
NEW ZEALAND**

I enclose a signed original of the Prime Minister's message to Mr. Lange, somewhat amended from the draft sent under cover of your letter of today's date. Subject to any comments on the revised text, I should be grateful if it could be despatched as soon as possible.

(Charles Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

SECRET

SECRET



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 April 1986

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Meeting with M. Chirac:
New Zealand

I enclose, as requested in your letter of 26 April, a draft message from the Prime Minister to Mr Lange. We will be happy to arrange for it to be delivered

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4)
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

SECRET

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference

ELSBCK

DEPARTMENT: TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: *The Rt Hon D.R. Lange.*
~~Mr~~ David Lange
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

As you ^{may} ~~probably~~ know, I had a ^{brief} ~~brief~~ working meeting with the French Prime Minister at Chequers on 26 April.

CAVEAT.....

In the course of our discussions, M. Chirac raised the question of France's relations with New Zealand. He told me that he very much wished to find a solution to the problems which have arisen, and was anxious to pursue negotiations with you ^{as soon as possible}. He claimed however that he was finding it difficult to get ^{and} negotiations under way, ^{and was anxious to} ~~but~~ ^{but} delay ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{being further complicated by} ~~in~~ ^{extremes} ~~in~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{such}.

I do not think ~~it would be right for the British~~ Government to get involved in the substance of any negotiations. I am sure you would agree. But M. Chirac has ~~already~~ asked for our assistance in establishing a discreet channel and I understand that a proposal has been put to you. ^{If it would help,} I would be happy to pass on your response to M. Chirac ~~if that would help~~ ^{any response} you might have about the procedure for negotiations between you.

~~with best~~
~~with best~~ wishes.

M. Chirac asked for my assistance in establishing a discreet channel. I have seen we are happy to do so. I do not of course

any parts which you wish me to pass on to him on procedure, in order to facilitate the opening of discussions. I shall be happy to do so. I do not of course

reels to be involved in any way in the substance which must be strictly a matter between you & the French Government.

