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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 644/81

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

14 April 1981

Dear Nelson,

It was kind of you to inform me, in your letter of 7 April, of your exchange with Michael English about the Canadian Constitution.

If I may say so, the line you took was of course exactly right. Thanks for keeping me in touch.

Yours sincerely
Malcolm Fraser

The Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, C.H., M.P.

JS



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION · LONDON

Acting
THE/HIGH COMMISSIONER

14 April 1981

Dear Mr Alexander,

I have been asked by the Australian Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser, to convey the enclosed letter from him to your Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher.

It is the original of the letter to Mrs Thatcher, the text of which I sent to you on 7 April 1981.

Yours sincerely,

F.C. Murray

Mr Michael Alexander,
Private Secretary (Overseas Affairs)
to the Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's Office,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON, SW1.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

13 April 1981

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter of 7 April about Mr Fraser's exchange with Mr Michael English MP about the Canadian Constitutional issue. We agree that a brief reply to Mr Fraser would be a courtesy and I attach a suggested form of words.

I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to David Heyhoe (Chancellor of the Duchy's Office) and Murdo MacLean (Chief Whip's Office).

Yours ever
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Dowing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

PRIME MINISTER

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

The Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser MP
Prime Minister of Australia

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

It was kind of you to inform me, in your letter of 7 April, of your exchange with Michael English about the Canadian Constitution.

If I may say so, the line you took was of course exactly right. Thanks for keeping me in touch.

Enclosures—flag(s).....



13 APR 1981

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.



→ Australia

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 April 1981

I enclose a copy of a message which the Prime Minister has received from the Prime Minister of Australia. Mr. Fraser's message sets out the terms in which he had replied to a letter received in January from Mr. Michael English MP.

There is, perhaps, no necessity for the Prime Minister to reply to Mr. Fraser. However, you may think that it would be courteous to send a reply indicating that the Prime Minister agrees with the line taken by Mr. Fraser.

I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosure to David Heyhoe (Chancellor of the Duchy's Office) and Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Francis Richards Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

RESTRICTED



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 April 1981

Thank you for your letter of
7 April. I have drawn the message
which you enclosed from Mr. Fraser
to the Prime Minister's attention.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

F. C. Murray, Esq.

RESTRICTED



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION · LONDON

Acting
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

7 April 1981

Dear Mr Alexander,

I have been asked by the Australian Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser, to convey the enclosed letter from him to your Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, which has been received by telegraph this morning. The original is following by air.

I should be grateful if you could bring this letter to Mrs Thatcher's attention as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

F.C. Murray

Mr Michael Alexander,
Private Secretary (Overseas Affairs)
to the Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's Office,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON. SW1.

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AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION • LONDON

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO. T60/81

SUBJECT
Acting
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

7 April 1981

My dear Prime Minister,

I have been asked to convey to you the text of a letter received by telegraph today from the Australian Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser:

Begins -

"My dear Margaret,

I have recently received representations from Mr M. English, MP, Member of the House of Commons for Nottingham West seeking the views of the Australian Government upon the possibility that the Canadian Parliament may request the Parliament of the United Kingdom to amend the Statute of Westminster 1931.

I enclose for your information a copy of my reply to Mr English.

Yours sincerely
Malcolm Fraser"

Ends -

Begins -

"Dear Mr English,

Thank you for your letter of 27 January 1981 concerning the possibility of the Canadian Parliament requesting the Parliament of the United Kingdom to amend the Statute of Westminster, 1931.

I understand that the proposed amendments to the Statute of Westminster would apply only to Canada.

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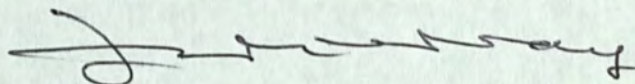
In these circumstances I do not think it would be appropriate for me to express a view on the matters you have raised.

Yours sincerely
(Malcolm Fraser)

Mr M. English, MP,
Member for Nottingham West
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA
United Kingdom."

Ends -

Yours sincerely,



F.C. Murray

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister of Great Britain
10 Downing Street
LONDON.

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PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T60/81

PRIME MINISTER
CANBERRA

7 APR 1981

My Dear Margaret

I have recently received representations from Mr M. English, M.P., Member of the House of Commons for Nottingham West seeking the views of the Australian Government upon the possibility that the Canadian Parliament may request the Parliament of the United Kingdom to amend the Statute of Westminster 1931.

I enclose for your information a copy of my reply to Mr English.

You sincerely
Margaret

The Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Great Britain,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON



PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

-7 FEB 1981

Dear Mr English,

Thank you for your letter of 27 January 1981 concerning the possibility of the Canadian Parliament requesting the Parliament of the United Kingdom to amend the Statute of Westminster, 1931.

I understand that the proposed amendments to the Statute of Westminster would apply only to Canada.

In these circumstances I do not think it would be appropriate for me to express a view on the matters you have raised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Fraser', written in a cursive style.

(Malcolm Fraser)

Mr M. English, M.P.,
Member for Nottingham West,
House of Commons,
LONDON SW1A 0AA
UNITED KINGDOM