

Subject

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE



SERIAL No. T.183/84.10. DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

file to
a file
cc Master
OPS

2 November 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your message about the UN Law of the Sea Convention which your High Commissioner in London passed to me on 24 October.

You urged that the UK should sign the Convention before the final date for signature and draw attention to the advantages offered by it in areas other than seabed mining. We recognise that much in the Convention is helpful, particularly its provisions on navigation, pollution and the continental shelf. As you noted, however, the regime presently envisaged for seabed mining causes us considerable concern.

We are aware of the significance of the final date for signature, and we are reviewing the work carried out by the Preparatory Commission during the last two years and its implications for the future. I shall take fully into account the points which you have made and will let you know once we have taken a decision.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Dalrymple

The Honourable David Lange, M.P.

to



file to
also

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 November 1984

Thank you for your letter of 24 October with which you passed to the Prime Minister a cabled message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand about the UN Law of the Sea Convention.

I should be most grateful if you would send to Mr. Lange the enclosed reply from Mrs. Thatcher.

CHARLES POWELL

His Excellency The Honourable W. L. Young.

to



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 November 1984

Dear Charles,

Please refer to your letter of 24 October to Colin Budd about the message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand to the Prime Minister about the UN Law of the Sea Convention.

The question of whether the UK should sign the Convention is to be considered by Ministers at OD on 7 November, on the basis of a Memorandum from the Foreign Secretary. In view of this, we recommend a holding reply, offering to let Mr Lange know our decision once it has been made. I enclose a draft, which has been cleared with the DTI.

Yours,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: ~~minute~~/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
PS/No 10

WLOABS

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

TO:

HE The Hon W L Young
 High Commissioner
 New Zealand High Commission
 New Zealand House
 Haymarket
 LONDON
 SW1Y 4TQ

Your Reference

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

SUBJECT:

1. Thank you for your letter of 24 October with which you passed to the Prime Minister a cabled message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand about the UN Law of the Sea Convention.
2. I should be most grateful if you would send to Mr Lange the enclosed reply from Mrs Thatcher.

COO

Enclosures—flag(s).....



DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
The Prime Minister

LPO AS T

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:
The Hon David Lange MP
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
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- Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

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CAVEAT.....

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Enclosures—flag(s).....

CM

Foreign PA Pt 2
Law of the Sea

