

(128)

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. 116A

*Walter* Subject  
*cc: Ops*  
*cc: Martens*

CONFIDENTIAL

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OO BRUSSELS

GRS 341

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 181700Z JUN 85

TO IMMEDIATE BRUSSELS

TELEGRAM NUMBER 99 OF 20 JUNE

INFO ROME, PARIS

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
21 JUN 1985		
DESK OFFICER		
INDEX	FA	
		<i>EL</i>

<sup>-107</sup> <sup>-113</sup>  
YOUR TELNOS 199 AND 205: MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR MARTENS

1. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM HER TO MR MARTENS IN THE COURSE OF YOUR FAREWELL CALLS.

MESSAGE BEGINS:

SIR EDWARD JACKSON HAS KEPT ME CLOSELY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGIUM AFTER THE FOOTBALL TRAGEDY IN BRUSSELS ON 29 MAY. AS YOU KNOW, I SHARE YOUR PROFOUND DISTRESS AT THE SUFFERING OF THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES. WE ARE MAKING AVAILABLE AN INITIAL DONATION OF POUNDS 5,000 TO THE NEXT OF KIN OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES.

2. I AM ALSO VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE WIDER DIFFICULTIES THAT THE TRAGEDY MAY HAVE CAUSED FOR YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE BEST THING WE CAN DO HERE IN BRITAIN IS TO PRESS AHEAD WITH MEASURES TO ERADICATE THE EVIL OF VIOLENCE AT FOOTBALL MATCHES. THIS I AM DETERMINED TO DO. AND OF COURSE WE SHALL PLAY OUR FULL PART IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE TO GET TO GRIPS WITH THE PROBLEM.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR LEGAL AND POLICE AUTHORITIES ARE WELL SATISFIED WITH THE COOPERATION THEY ARE RECEIVING FROM OUR PEOPLE IN IDENTIFYING THOSE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN UNLEASHING THE TRAGEDY. BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING FURTHER THAT YOU THINK WE CAN DO, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH BEFORE OUR MEETING IN MILAN AT THE END OF THE MONTH IF NEED BE.



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I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR NEXT MEETING AT MILAN.  
THIS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PRESENTS US WITH A MAJOR  
OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITY  
OF THE COMMUNITY BOTH EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY. SIR GEOFFREY HOWE  
AND M. TINDEMANS HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED OUR IDEAS AND I BELIEVE  
WE SHARE A COMMON DETERMINATION TO COMPLETE THE COMMON MARKET, TO  
REACH FORMAL AGREEMENT ON POLITICAL COOPERATION AND IMPROVE OUR  
ABILITY TO TAKE DECISIONS AS A COMMUNITY.  
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO MAKE THE MILAN EUROPEAN  
COUNCIL A MEETING OF REAL ACHIEVEMENT.  
MESSAGE ENDS.

HOWE

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

LIMITED  
CONS D  
WED  
CRD  
NEWS D  
INFO D  
LEGAL ADVS  
FINANCE D  
PS  
PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE  
PS/MR RENTON  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/PUS  
CHIEF CLERK  
MR DEREK THOMAS  
MR JENKINS  
MR BARRINGTON  
MR MACINNES

COPIES TO:  
PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST  
PS/MR MACFARLANE DOE  
PS/MR SHAW HOME OFFICE  
MS HOGWOOD FINANCE DEPT

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