

**SUBJECT**

**PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE**

**SERIAL No. T1/79T**

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON FRIDAY 4 MAY 1979

Pa.  
G.M.  
y/r

President Carter: .... to wish you well. It was a tremendous personal victory for you and you have my admiration as a political figure.

Prime Minister: That's very kind of you but we had a little bit of luck. Thank you very much. It's most kind of you to ring and I hope I'll be able to meet you from time to time and discuss things because there's an awful lot we need to talk about.

President Carter: Well I hope we'll be able to meet fairly soon. Obviously we'll be together at the end of next month in Tokyo.

Prime Minister: In Tokyo. And we'll be able to set up a side meeting there.

President Carter: Yes, I will certainly make arrangements for it.

Prime Minister: That would be excellent. I would be most grateful if we could.

President Carter: If we see a convenient time between now and then perhaps we can ... I know how difficult the first month or two will be for you establishing a new Government. But let's plan now on arranging a special meeting while we are in Tokyo and I'll look forward to that.

Prime Minister: That would be excellent. Right now, as you know, I have no time to form a Cabinet. It has to be done immediately.

President Carter: I understand. I told Secretary Vance as soon as you choose a Foreign Secretary to be in close touch with him and perhaps they can consult personally within the next week or two.

Prime Minister: Yes, I had the same thing in mind.

President Carter: We have several/important issues to exchange ideas about - Rhodesia and other things - and we want to act in

/ harmony with



President Carter (contd): harmony with you as much as we possibly can of course.

Prime Minister: The person I have in mind, whom I haven't seen yet, will certainly do that and the moment the appointment is announced I will ask him to contact Secretary Vance.

President Carter: Let me say also that even between now and the time we meet personally I would appreciate an opportunity to exchange personal letters back and forth. If there's any question that you want to ask me about our own policies which can't be resolved through the Foreign Minister level it would be a special pleasure for me and a demonstration of our friendship if you would contact me directly.

Prime Minister: That would be excellent. I would appreciate that too. Could you make the first communication, Mr. President?

President Carter: I just can't hear you.

Prime Minister: Could you make the first communication? Could you send me the first letter then I will know the kind of thing you want?

President Carter: I would certainly be glad to do that - you depend on it.

Prime Minister: All right, I would appreciate that.

President Carter: Have you had a chance to get any rest?

Prime Minister: No, the adrenalin is running so fast at the moment that I don't need rest. We're trying to form a Cabinet by tomorrow evening.

President Carter: Well, we'll be looking with great interest to see what your selections might be.

Prime Minister: Well I think you'll be very happy with it.

/ President Carter:



President Carter: I have no doubt about it and we look forward to working with you closely on an official basis and I also look forward to the evolution of a very good friendship personally between us.

Prime Minister: Thank you very much for phoning. It is most kind of you.

President Carter: Best wishes to you.

Prime Minister: Thank you.

President Carter: And thank you very much for talking to me.

Prime Minister: Goodbye.

President Carter: Goodbye.



USA

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 051605Z MAY 79

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 444 OF 5 MAY

*Enter ma  
b/m  
7/5*

FOLLOWING FOR AMBASSADOR FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

1. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT PRESIDENT CARTER TELEPHONED THE PRIME MINISTER, FROM IOWA, AT 19.30 YESTERDAY EVENING. HE EXPRESSED HIS WARM BEST WISHES AND HIS CONGRATULATIONS ON MRS. THATCHER'S VICTORY IN THE GENERAL ELECTION.

2. PRESIDENT CARTER AGREED, AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUGGESTION, THAT THEY SHOULD ARRANGE A BILATERAL MEETING ON THE MARGIN OF THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN TOKYO ON 28/29 JUNE. PRESIDENT CARTER ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED MR. VANCE TO BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE NEW FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY AS SOON AS HE HAD BEEN APPOINTED AND TO ARRANGE PERSONAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THEM DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO. PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT THERE WERE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO DISCUSS, INCLUDING THAT OF RHODESIA, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES WISHED TO ACT IN HARMONY WITH THE U.K. TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE EXTENT.

3. PRESIDENT CARTER EMPHASISED HIS WISH TO MAINTAIN DIRECT PERSONAL CONTACT WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THROUGH EXCHANGES OF MESSAGES, WHENEVER NECESSARY AND THE PRIME MINISTER READILY AGREED.

CARRINGTON

[Copies sent to N°10 DOWNING ST.]

FILES

PRIVATE OFFICE

RHODESIA, D.

FED

FRD

PS/PUS

SIR A DUFF

SIR A. PARSONS

MR LEAHY

MR DAY



CONFIDENTIAL

VLB



FILE

10 DOWNING STREET

cc Co

*From the Private Secretary*

4 May 1979

The Prime Minister's Telephone Conversation with President  
Carter on 4 May 1979

President Carter telephoned the Prime Minister, from Iowa, at 19.30 this evening. He expressed his warm best wishes and his congratulations on Mrs. Thatcher's victory in the General Election.

President Carter agreed, at the Prime Minister's suggestion, that they should arrange a bilateral meeting on the margin of the Economic Summit in Tokyo on 28/29 June. President Carter also said that he had instructed Mr. Vance to be in close touch with the new Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary as soon as he had been appointed and to arrange personal consultations between them during the course of the next week or two. President Carter said that there were important issues to discuss, including that of Rhodesia, and that the United States wished to act in harmony with the U.K. to the greatest possible extent.

President Carter emphasised his wish to maintain direct personal contact with the Prime Minister, through exchanges of messages, whenever necessary and the Prime Minister readily agreed.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

B. G. CARTLEDGE

J. S. Wall, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

KRB



Tom has  
seen

10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

The White House  
now say, with profuse  
apologies, that President  
Carter - because of  
travel problems - will  
not now be able to  
telephone you until  
between 6.30 & 7.30 pm.  
Is this acceptable?

BH  
4/5