

SUBJECT

*Embaixada de Portugal  
em  
Londres*

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T170/80

MESSAGE

Dear Prime Minister,

I should like to thank you for your kind letter of the 25th July about the Community pre-accession aid to Portugal. We welcome the decision taken by the Foreign Affairs Council on the 21st and 22nd July, in Brussels, and understand your present difficulties. In this context, I must express my gratitude for your help.

Nevertheless, I would once more like to stress how important it is for the achievement of democracy and stability in Portugal that, on the line we already asked you for, you do not oppose a final and helpful decision in the next EEC Council on the 15th September 1980. This is a final date for a still possible start of the present year programme.

I also emphasize how very exploited an unsatisfactory Council's decision would be by the opposers to Portugal's entrance in a free and democratic Europe, during the next election campaign. I am sure that you will understand the political meaning and all the implications of this issue. I entirely count on your solidarity towards Portugal.

Yours sincerely,

Francisco Sa Carneiro  
(Prime Minister of Portugal).

file

vb

BF 12.9.80

Euro Pol.

5 September 1980

I enclose a copy of a message which the Prime Minister has received, via the Portuguese Embassy, from the Prime Minister of Portugal about the Community pre-accession aid.

I should be grateful if you could let me have in due course a reply which the Prime Minister might send to Mr. Sa Carneiro.

M.A.

S.J. Gomersall, Esq.,  
Lord Privy Seal's Office.

ds

5 September 1980

Thank you for your letter of 4 September enclosing a message to the Prime Minister from the Prime Minister of Portugal. I shall of course draw your Prime Minister's message to Mrs Thatcher's immediate attention.

M.A.

Senhor Jose Maria A.S. de Lemos Macedo

*MS*

<sup>10</sup>  
Embaixada de Portugal  
*em*  
Londres

R4/9

4th September, 1980

Proc. 2,212

No. *L.S.D.*

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a message received by telex today from the Portuguese Prime Minister with instructions that the message should be forwarded immediately to the British Prime Minister.

I would, therefore, be most grateful if you would bring the said text to the attention of the Prime Minister as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

*J.M. de Macedo*

(J.M. de Macedo)

Chargé d'Affaires.

The Private Secretary,  
Office of the Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London, S.W.1.

Embaixada de Portugal  
em  
Londres

19th September, 1980

Proc. 2,212

No. 159

Dear Mr. Alexander

Further to our communication dated 4th September I am now enclosing the original text signed by the Portuguese Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely  
J. M. de Macedo  
(J. M. de Macedo)  
Counsellor.

Michael Alexander, Esq.,  
Private Secretary,  
Office of the Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London, S.W.1.



PRESIDÊNCIA DO CONSELHO DE MINISTROS

*Gabinete do Primeiro Ministro*

T 170/80.

The RT Hon  
Margaret Thatcher

Lisbon, 1st September 1980

*Dear Prime Minister:*

I should like to thank you for your kind letter of the 25th July about the Community pre-accession aid to Portugal.

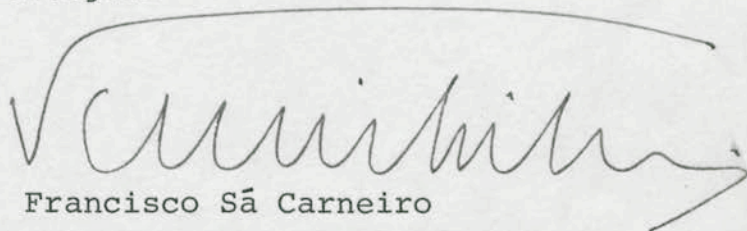
We welcome the decision taken by the Foreign Affairs Council on the 21st and 22nd July, in Brussels, and understand your present difficulties. In this context, I must express my gratitude for your help.

Nevertheless, I would once more like to stress how important it is for the achievement of democracy and stability in Portugal that, on the line we already asked you for, you do not oppose to a final and helpful decision in the next EEC Council on the 15th September 1980. This is a limit date for a still possible start of the present year programme.

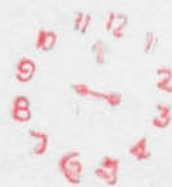
I also emphasize how largely exploited would an unsatisfactory Council's decision be by the oppositors to Portugal's entrance in a free and democratic Europe, during the next electoral campaign.

I am sure that you will understand the political meaning and all the implications of this issue. I entirely count on your solidarity towards Portugal.

*Yours sincerely*

  
Francisco Sá Carneiro

24 SEP 1960





10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

25 July 1980

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T150/80

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your message of 15 July about Community pre-accession aid for Portugal.

Your message and those sent to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary by Professor Freitas do Amaral, brought out very clearly the immense political importance which you and your colleagues attach to this issue. It was with this in mind that we were able, together with our Community partners, to agree at the Foreign Affairs Council on 21/22 July to offer aid, including both a loan and a grant element, in the terms which have now been communicated to your Government. I hope that the decision will have been welcome and helpful to you.

It was however a difficult decision for us to take. We are having to apply severe constraints to public expenditure generally. Our existing aid programme, from which the British share of any grant assistance to Portugal has to come, is under considerable pressure. These factors will inevitably limit the extent of our ability to contribute to a Community programme of the kind envisaged. We shall of course do our best to help: but I hope you will bear our own very real difficulties in mind when we discuss in the autumn the details of the aid package.

(sgd) MT

His Excellency Dr. Francisco S Carneiro

cc FCO . SK  
CC . 2417

Enro PA

Subject filed as ~~Enro~~ Portugal  
March 1980. Vint A P.M. + Foreign  
Minister.





EMBAIXADA DE PORTUGAL

Original on: -  
Portugal: Do Amaral  
visit: March 80

**PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T142/80  
SUBJECT**

MESSAGE

Dear Prime Minister,

A decision is to be taken by the Council of Ministers of the EEC next Tuesday, the 22nd of July, in Brussels, on pre-accession aid to Portugal.

You will recall that the Portuguese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs talked about this during the official meeting with you on the 19th May, in Downing Street.

All the details are well known to your government, but I would like to stress how important it is for us that a positive decision is taken.

Full democracy and stability in Portugal are not yet entirely achieved and we very much need to reinforce them with a clear and positive act of European solidarity in order to strengthen our economic and social structures.

After President Giscard's statements, which have had a very negative impact on Portuguese public opinion, if we get now a negative decision on pre-accession aid I very much fear for the whole idea of Europe and of our integration in the EEC. We invested a lot, politically, in this issue because the whole concept of pre-accession aid was first suggested to us by the EEC itself and therefore we never thought that a veto could be subsequently possible at the moment of the final decision.

We have, however, been informed that the only member country who might oppose a positive decision next week in Brussels is Britain.

I don't need of course to stress to you how big a damage it would cause to the long lasting friendship and alliance between Britain and Portugal that an eventual veto on pre-accession aid to Portugal should come from Britain.

I am sure you fully understand the meaning and implications of this issue. I ask you to look at it in a favourable way and to give a positive answer to our case. I entirely count on your solidarity towards Portugal.

Yours sincerely,

Francisco Sa Carneiro  
Prime Minister of Portugal

15 July 1980



RS  
Envois Post

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

24 September 1980

In Mr. Alexander's absence with the Prime Minister in Yugoslavia, I am writing to thank you for your letter of 19 September, with which you enclosed the original text of the Portuguese Prime Minister's message to Mrs. Thatcher dated 1 September.

M. A. PATTISON

Senhor J.M. de Macedo

2/8