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AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION • LONDON

SUBJECT

CCOPS
Master

6 March 1986

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T45/86

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

The Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Hawke, has asked that I pass to you the text of the following message.

Text Begins:

My Dear Margaret

I have been giving consideration to visiting Europe from 19 to 26 April and should very much like to meet you during the early part of that period if possible.

A particular purpose of my proposed visit relates to the Australian Government's growing concern about the outlook for the international trading system especially with regard to agricultural products. We consider it is very important that the forthcoming round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations is successful in achieving an effective reinstatement of GATT rules in international trade and their application to trade in agricultural products. We hope that you will be able to encourage the full consideration of these issues at the forthcoming Tokyo Economic Summit.

I would also wish to register our continuing concern as to the effects of the Common Agricultural Policy and the importance we attach to its reform. Before travelling to Europe, I shall visit Washington to discuss with President Reagan and other senior members of his administration and of Congress Australia's concerns regarding the implications of the United States Farm Bill for international trade in agricultural products.

Our meeting would also provide an opportunity to discuss not only our bilateral relationship, but also current international political issues

of concern to us both such as East-West relations, arms control and disarmament, and the activities of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group on Southern Africa. In addition, there would be value in exchanging views on other international economic issues apart from trade in the context of the forthcoming Economic Summit.

My scheduling for the proposed visit is still flexible, but, from my point of view, Monday 21 April would be the most convenient time for us to meet. I should be grateful for your early advice as to whether my proposed visit is convenient from your point of view.

With best wishes,

Bob Hawke

Text Ends

Yours sincerely

A. L. Vincent

A. L. Vincent

The Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
Prime Minister and First Lord
of the Treasury
10 Downing Street
LONDON, SW1

