

File No.
 Department
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OUTWARD
 TELEGRAM

Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL
Precedence IMMEDIATE
DESKBY Z

FOR COMMS. DEPT. USE	Despatched (Date) (Time) Z	POSTBY Z
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PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) Z (G.M.T.) (Restrictive Prefix)
 (Security Class.) CONFIDENTIAL (Caveat)
 (Codeword) (Privacy marking)
 (Deskby) Z

TO IMMEDIATE TOKYO ~~DESKBY~~ Tel. No. of
 (precedence) (post)

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

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- Lord Bridges
- Mr Bullard
- Mr Hannay
- ~~XXXXXX~~
- Mr Evans
- Lord N Gordon-Lennox
- Mr Donald

[TEXT]

MIPT: MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER

1. Following is text of Mr Ito's message:-
 [a-b]

Additional Dist:
 Economic Summit

CONFIDENTIAL

JUNE

12, 1980

A/IT IS WITH DEEP SORROW
THAT I MUST INFORM YOU OF
THE UNTIMELY PASSING AWAY
OF PRIME MINISTER MASAYOSH
I OHIRA THIS MORNING. HE D
IED OF A SUDDEN DETERIORAT
ION OF HIS HEART CONDITION
. HIS UNEXPECTED DEMISE CA
ME AS A PROFOUND SHOCK TO
ALL THE JAPANESE PEOPLE, L
ET ALONE HIS BEREAVED FAMI

CONFIDENTIAL

LY. I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION OF YOUR WARM MESSAGE TO OUR PRIME MINISTER AFTER HIS HOSPITALIZATION AND FOR YOUR DEEP FEELING OF FRIENDSHIP TO HIM.

I WAS APPOINTED ACTING PRIME MINISTER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE, TO HEAD THE CARE-TAKER GOVERNMENT.

I CONSIDER IT MY PRIME TASK TO SEE TO IT THAT THE ELECTIONS FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND FOR THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS WILL BE COMPLETED AND TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH TRANSITION THEREAFTER. WHILE RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUMMIT, I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND IT UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. I, THEREFORE, WOULD LIKE TO SEND TO VENICE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN A

FFAIRS, MINISTER FOR FINAN
CE AND MINISTER FOR INTERN.
ATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY
. IF IT IS AGREEABLE TO YO
U AND OTHER HEADS OF STATE
AND GOVERNMENT, I WOULD L
IKE TO HAVE FOREIGN MINIST
ER OKITA BE PRESENT AT THE
MEETINGS WHERE ONLY THE H
EADS OF STATE AND GOVERNME
NT CAN ATTEND, AND HAVE HI
M SPEAK ON BEHALF OF MYSEL
F.

MASAYOSHI ITO
ACTING PRIME MINIST
ER OF JAPAN/B