

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
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10 DOWNING STREET

22 December 1980

Subject

THE PRIME MINISTER

Your Highness,

I am most grateful to you for receiving, at such short notice, the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Douglas Hurd, and his companions Sir Freddie Page, Chairman and Chief Executive, Aircraft Group, British Aerospace and Sir Ronald Ellis of the Ministry of Defence.

Since the message I sent you on 20 December, which our Charge d'Affaires delivered today, I have been thinking about one particular aspect of our co-operation, namely the contract for the advanced trainer/ground attack aircraft, the HAWK. As Mr. Hurd will explain to you, this contract is extremely important to us not just as a matter of trade but for the contribution it will make to the development of our defence industry and therefore to our ability to help you in the future. Mr. Hurd will be able to speak further about this, but I am writing to you as an old friend of this country, and hope you will give him a sympathetic hearing.

May I take this opportunity to send my warmest good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Rajarat Nalika

His Highness Shaikh Zaid bin Sultan Al Nahayyan, GCMG.

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