



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 November, 1983

Dear Mr. Ramphal,

Thank you for your letter of 1 November. I am grateful to you for keeping me in touch with developments and with your thinking on the way ahead. I am glad to know that the Commonwealth, through you, has been able to offer immediate assistance to the Governor-General of Grenada during this difficult time for him.

You will know from Geoffrey Howe and from his speech to the House of Commons on 3 November that we shall want to consider sympathetically requests for help in restoring conditions of peace and security. It will of course be important that any such request has the active support of the Governor-General or of an interim administration, and that the other Commonwealth Caribbean States are as fully involved as possible; and I know that you are working on these lines.

It may well be that a lightly armed interim force will be more suitable for Grenada than a military force. I understand from Geoffrey Howe that your thinking may be moving in the same way.

I look forward to seeing you again on 10 November, when we shall be able to discuss the problem further. In the meantime, I know that Geoffrey Howe and his officials will be keen to keep in touch with you on this important subject.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

His Excellency Mr. Shridath S. Ramphal, AC, Kt., CMG, QC.

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