

PREM19

13

DEATHS

(Lord

Mountbatten)

PREM 19/13

D. R.

We have promised to inform the following
if a Lord Mountbatten memorial fund is
set up:-

Mr. Bruce Woodworth,
Carrigdhoun,
Oldcourt,
Rochestown,
Co. Cork.

Miss D.C. Howlett,
National Association for Teachers of
Religious Knowledge,
16 Clarendon Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 9SE.

Papers filed in Correspondence Section.

'Sub-human killers' condemned by Prince

By Trevor Fishlock

In a poignant tribute to the late Lord Mountbatten of Burma yesterday, the Prince of Wales echoed British anger, sadness and bewilderment over the Irish question.

"What on earth was the point of such mindless cruelty?" he asked. "He was a man who helped defeat the scourge of tyranny and oppression. Perhaps the manner of his passing will awaken us to civilized democracy's vulnerability to the kind of sub-human extremism that blows up people when it feels like it."

It was bitter irony, he said, that a man who had been torpedoed, mined and bombed in the last war, who had helped defeat tyranny in South-east Asia, who had passionate concern for the individual, who had ensured that India should get independence, should be mercilessly blown to bits "through the agency of some of the most cowardly minds imaginable".

Lord Mountbatten had worked hard for peace and international understanding. But "they finally succeeded in murdering a man desperately trying to sow the seeds of peace for future generations".

The Prince paid heartfelt and moving tribute to his great-uncle at a memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral. Wearing the uniform of Commander Royal Navy, and standing in



Lord Brabourne and Lady Mountbatten of Burma, who were seriously injured by the terrorist bomb blast which killed Lady Mountbatten's father, Lord Mountbatten of Burma, leaving after his memorial service in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday. They were accompanied by their sons (from left) Philip, Lord Romsey and Timothy.

the spotlight pulpit beneath the great dome, he spoke to more than 2,000 people.

He talked of Lord Mountbatten's qualities—his courage, wit and enthusiasm—and added simply: "I adored him. So many of us will miss him dreadfully."

He said that several years ago Lord Mountbatten had been planning arrangements for his funeral service and had asked him to make an address

at it. "Little did I think under what circumstances I would be making the address. My great uncle always seemed to me reassuringly indestructible and full of energy and enthusiasm, even at the age of nearly 80."

The Prince said he supposed there was a sense in which Lord Mountbatten had died a hero's death at sea. But with him died Doreen Lady Brabourne, mother of his son-in-law, Nicholas Knatchbull, his grand-

son; and Paul Maxwell, the local boy who looked after the fishing boat Shadow V.

"Today we remember them, two elderly people and two on the threshold of their lives. The fact that two of his family died with him would have appalled Lord Mountbatten. He was, above all, a family man, a devoted husband, enlightened father, wonderful grandfather and a very special great uncle. He was a man for whom blood

was thicker than water. He was the centre of the family, a patriarchal figure."

The memorial service, for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen Lady Brabourne and Nicholas Knatchbull, was conducted by the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Gerald Ellison.

Lord Brabourne and Lady Mountbatten, Lord Mountbatten's daughter, who survived the explosion, were present. Memorial service, page 14

Deaths



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 December 1979

Thank you for your notification of the Memorial Service to be held for Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Doreen, Lady Brabourne and the Hon. Nicholas Knatchbull, and this is just to let you know that the Prime Minister will be present on Thursday 20 December but Mr Thatcher is not able to attend.

CS

The Registrar,
The Chapter House.

ms
Deaths



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Mr. Rother

Do you wish to
go to Lord Mountbatten's
Memorial Service at
St. Paul's on 20 December.

The P.M. is going.

Yours
af.

H.2.

No

The Rt. Hon. Margaret and Mr Denis Thatcher.

● By kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma

Doreen, Lady Brabourne

Hon. Nicholas Knatchbull

is to be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday 20th December 1979
at 11.30 a.m.

Would you please complete
and return the enclosed card

Deaths *Copy 28.*
6/12
To Mr.
AM
S'x
Cabinet Office,
Whitehall,
London, SW1.

5th December, 1979

PS(79) 42

Dear Private Secretary,

Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten

There is to be a Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen Lady Brabourne and the Hon. Nicholas Knatchbull at St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, 20th December at 11.30 am.

Cabinet on that day will be at 9.30 am in order that members of the Cabinet can attend this Service. The Prime Minister would like as many of her Cabinet colleagues as possible to do so.

I am copying this letter to Private Secretaries to members of the Cabinet, the Minister of Transport and the Chief Whip.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) M.J. VILE

C.V.P.

Death
✓ CVP 4/12

MR THATCHER

The Prime Minister will be attending a Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen, Lady Brabourne and Nicholas Knatchbull at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, 20 December at 11.30 am.

Would you wish to attend also, if you are free?

CVP

I much regret that
I will be in the Midlands
on that day at a
Board Meeting

4 December 1979

4/12/79

3 December 1979

You asked last week whether the Prime Minister would be attending the Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen Lady Brabourne and the Hon. Nicholas Knatchbull at St Paul's Cathedral on December 20th.

The Prime Minister will be attending the Service.

C. V. PETERSON

John Barratt Esq



Carhu. SP.
✓
4/12
JW.
30 ii
JCP

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Secretary for Appointments

MR VILE
CABINET OFFICE

cc Mr Whitmore ✓

There is to be a Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen Lady Brabourne and the Hon. Nicholas Knatchbull at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday December 20th at 11.30 am.

The Prime Minister plans to attend the Service, and would like as many senior Ministers as possible to be present.

The time of Cabinet might perhaps be brought forward to 09.30 that morning. In advising Ministers of the change of time, perhaps you would convey the Prime Minister's wishes about attendance.

E. V. PETERSON

3 December 1979

WHITMORE

PRIME MINISTER

1.
I am afraid that the timing is far from ideal from your point of view. But we can so rearrange things to make you free to go if you wish. Will you attend the service?

TM

28xi

There is to be a Memorial Service for Lord Mountbatten, Doreen, Lady Brabourne and the Hon Nicholas Knatchbull at St Paul's on Thursday December 20 at 11.30 am.

The Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales will be present.

You have a full diary that day, and it is the first day after your return from the States. But you will perhaps wish to be present, and some senior Ministers might also wish to be there.

If so, perhaps Cabinet could be brought forward from 10.30 to 09.30 that morning.

Yes - we must go
and in strength.
not.

CVP

28 November 1979

COLIN

Lord Mountbatten's Secretary
phoned re: the Memorial Service
at St Paul's on 20 Dec at 11.30.
Is the PM attending? The Duke of
Edinburgh and Prince of Wales
will be there.

I said we would phone him back.

Mr Barratt tel - 235 0081.

RH

28.11.

The Times - 21 November 1979

A memorial service for Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Doreen, Lady Brabourne and the Hon Nicholas Knatchbull will be held in St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, December 20, at 11.30 am. Applications for tickets should be sent to the Private Secretary, The Chapter House, St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AD, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

HS

Deaths

15 October 1979

Death of Lord Mountbatten

Your letter of 12 October. I agree that no substantive reply is necessary to the message of condolence from the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

So

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 October 1979

Dear Michael,

DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN: CONDOLENCES FROM
THE UTTAR PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

You will wish to know that the Indian High Commission have asked us to convey to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly deep sorrow and concern at Lord Mountbatten's death. An obituary reference was made in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Lucknow, on 28 August 1979.

The High Commission's Note has been acknowledged. Subject to your views, we do not consider that a substantive reply is necessary.

yours ever
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing St

To promote the well-being
of India and friendly co-operation
between the British and Indian
peoples.



THE INDIA LEAGUE

Founded in 1928

by V.K. KRISHNA MENON

Chairman
Julius Silverman MP

Hon General Secretary
Dr Tarapada Basu

Hon Treasurer
S N Gourisaria

Hon Administrative
Secretary
T Z Carrasco

Wheatsheaf House
4 Carmelite Street
London EC 4
Telephone: 01-353 9091

17 September 1979

Mr Michael Alexander
The Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London SW 1

Dear Mr Alexander,

Memorial Meeting for Lord Louis Mountbatten / 7 September 1979

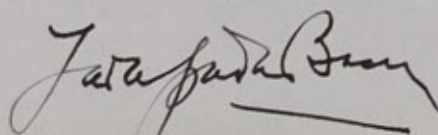
Thank you very much for the message from the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, which was read at the meeting along with the messages from the Prime Minister of India, Mr Charan Singh, Mrs Indira Gandhi (former Prime Minister of India), Mr James Callaghan, Mr David Steel, the External Affairs Minister of India, Mr S N Mishra, the Finance Minister of India, Mr H N Bahuguna, the Opposition Leader of India, Mr Jagjivan Ram, and others.

In reply to the message of condolences to the Queen from our Chairman, Mr Julius Silverman, Her Majesty conveyed her reply, the text of which too was read at the meeting.

You will find enclosed full report of the meeting which was well-attended.

We shall be grateful if you kindly convey our thanks to Mrs Thatcher.

Yours sincerely,


Tarapada Basu.

R17
Deaths

fs
Ans - 12/7

India Weekly



LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1979

15p In India Rs 3.50 by Air

A dry monsoon

During recent weeks public in this country has seen so many pictures on the television screen and in the press of the flood waters that extracted so heavy a toll of life in Morvi in the State of Gujarat that there is bound to be some incredulity if it is told that the problem facing the government and the people of India just now is not excess of water but a great scarcity of it. For it has been a season of what is being called "a dry monsoon." The rainfall has been below normal in many States, including some which even in good seasons tend to be short of food, like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, partly because of the backwardness of agriculture compounded by persistent failure to carry out much needed land reforms.

Drought, of course, is no respecter of the political complexion of governments, though there has been a tendency on the part of the media to attribute responsibility for the failure of rains to politician in power where they have fallen from their grace for other reasons. However, it cannot be denied that it becomes much more difficult to tackle the urgent problems raised by drought if the government in power happens to be weak and lacks public support and even a proper mandate. Unfortunately, we in India at the moment have a caretaker administration which is in that predicament. More: the drought has come at a time when elections are round the corner

and it would be too much to expect that politicians, being only human, will be able to resist the temptation to try to make political capital out of the difficulties created by shortages that must come in the wake of a poor monsoon.

The Union government is reported to have set up a committee to deal with the situation. This is an earnest of the seriousness with which it takes the problem of providing relief for the drought-stricken areas. It is also better equipped than in the past to provide relief. With more than twenty million tons of food grain in stock, and the stocks being well distributed in various regions of the country, there is absolutely no reason why any significant section of our people should go without food in the months ahead. If there are any grounds for apprehension it is because during the past year or more the administration not only in the states but also at the centre has shown symptoms of a creeping paralysis of will. And recent political developments have only served to accentuate this. Nevertheless it is to be hoped that political leaders of all persuasions will co-operate with the administration to ensure that the task of food distribution in areas of scarcity is carried out efficiently and without delay. It would be unforgivable if any political considerations are allowed to obstruct the task or any favouritism is displayed in carrying it out

OUR POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENT

Assam Govt. resigns on eve of trust vote

The 542-day old Janata Ministry of Assam led by Chief Minister Golap Borbora bowed out of office on Sept. 4 even as the assembly was debating a no-confidence motion against it. Three minutes after the House met at 2.30 p.m., Deputy Speaker Chand Mohammad announced he had received a communication from Governor L. P. Singh addressed to the Speaker that Mr Golap Borbora had resigned, and that the Governor had accepted the resignation.

The Governor requested him to con-

tinue in office till alternative arrangements were made.

He told the Speaker that under Article 175 of the Constitution he was advising adjournment of the Assembly sine die.

The Opposition greeted the announcement with loud cheers and for a few minutes both the Janata and the Opposition members were heard shouting "Inquilab Zindabad". The Deputy Speaker thereupon adjourned the House.

Last week at Southall

Mrs Indira Gandhi 'addresses' a crowded independence day meeting of Indian Overseas Congress with Mr A. P. Sharma, MP

The Indian Overseas Congress celebrated India's 32nd Independence Day at a packed meeting at the Ramghoria Hall, Southall (Greater London) last Saturday with Mrs Indira Gandhi's pre-recorded speech brought by Mr A. P. Sharma, MP, and relayed to the cheering audience, according to our Special Correspondent.

Mrs Gandhi's recorded voice said: "I am glad that the Indian Overseas Congress celebrates our important days. Independence Day this year was a dismal affair. From the ramparts of the Red Fort, the Prime Minister gave not a message to the nation on national issues but a speech meant for component of his heterogeneous party. There is little if any difference between the two — the Janata Party original and the Janata Party (S). In these two and a half years the country has suffered enormously; casteism and communalism have increased, our resources, human and material, have been wasted.

"India has lost her position and prestige abroad. Policies are at their lowest. Now we are on the threshold of elections, but there is widespread apprehension that they may not be fair. The Congress (I) is the only party which has stood steadfastly by its ideas, objectives and programme, and

has not only retained its cohesion but is continuing to add to its strength. The struggle is a long one and will not be over with the elections. For powerful elements in India and abroad are opposed to our policies and the task of rebuilding is gigantic. I hope Indians abroad will try to sift the real from the false in the news which has so often been given a particular slant in the media and will see through the irrelevances and low level propaganda to the real issues at stake, which are nothing less than the stability, progress and prosperity of our beloved land. I send my good wishes to the Indian Overseas Congress."

Our Correspondent adds: The meeting was presided over by Dr Tarapada Basu, General Secretary of the India League, at the invitation of the Overseas Congress. He recalled the days in Britain when the India League worked in this country under the leadership of Krishna Menon with India and British volunteers in support of India's independence, and mentioned about Mrs Gandhi and many other workers of the League; engaged not only for Indian independence but also for other countries struggling against colonialism, racialism,

Continued on page 5, col. 1

India at Havana

At every non-aligned summit until the present one which has just concluded at Havana, India was represented by the Head of Government, beginning with Jawaharlal Nehru at Belgrade in 1961. Havana non-aligned summit has been the first at which Indian representation was at the foreign minister level, the delegation being led by Mr S. N. Mishra. Originally, Mr Charan Singh was to have gone, but he decided not to after he had resigned because of his inability to muster a majority in the Lok Sabha. This decision was inevitable and perhaps right in the context. But it would be deluding ourselves to suggest that this did not reduce the weight of India's contribution to the deliberations of the non-aligned nations.

It is true no doubt that India's foreign policy, and especially our commitment to the concept of non-alignment, is no longer a matter for party political disputations but is part of an almost universal consensus among all parties. All the same Mr Mishra could not but be aware of the limitation of authority under which he was functioning and this inevitably placed him at some disadvantage among his colleagues. Under the circumstances his contribution to the debate on various issues, whether controversial or otherwise, had necessarily to be guarded, if not inhibited. Nevertheless he did take the opportunity of reaffirming India's faith in non-alignment and in its relevance to the problems of this divided world. Moreover, on the delicate question of Kampuchean representation he was among those who proposed the compromise solution of leaving the Kampuchean seat empty till the question can be tackled in two years' time at the Foreign Ministers meeting in New Delhi. Incidentally, the fact that New Delhi was chosen as the venue for that preparatory meeting should go some way to dispel the impression, being sedulously spread by a section of the Western media, that India no longer counts in the non-alignment movement.

A CORRESPONDENT

Mrs Gandhi's plea for Kampucheans

Mrs Indira Gandhi has, through a telegram to Cuban President Fidel Castro, appealed to all heads of states assembled in Havana to give utmost priority to "the humanitarian aspect of the Kampuchean question and to organise worldwide relief and rehabilitation programmes irrespective of their views on the political aspects of Kampuchea."

The telegram was sent on 2 September.

The telegram said: "I wish to draw the attention of your excellency and of the other high dignitaries attending the Havana conference to the tragedy facing millions of surviving Kampucheans. It has few parallels in the long history of human suffering. Out of the four million survivors, reports indicate one million are disabled. The majority of survivors are women and children. Due to lack of food, clothes, medicine and shelter, due to disruption of economic activity, due to total absence of trained and technical manpower, including doctors, nurses, and teachers, and the total destruction of infrastructure, a human problem of vast dimension confronts the world community.

"Shocked by this tragedy and its human dimensions, I appeal to all heads of states or their representatives assembled in Havana to give utmost priority to the humanitarian aspect of the Kampuchean question and to organise worldwide relief and rehabilitation programmes irrespective of their views on the political aspect of Kampuchea."

India League's Memorial Meeting

HOMAGE TO EARL MOUNTBATTEN

Special messages from The Queen, Indian and British Prime Ministers, Mrs Indira Gandhi, Mr James Callaghan and other's India's Vice-Presidents, Mrs Pandit and others present

In response to the message (see "India Weekly", Aug. 30/Sept. 6, p.1, cols. 1 & 2 bottom) sent to the Queen, on behalf of the India League, by its Chairman Julius Silverman, MP, who presided over the solemn well-attended memorial meeting held last Friday at the Mahatma Gandhi Hall of the YMCA Indian Student Hostel, London, to pay tributes to Earl Mountbatten of Burma, it was conveyed to him from Balmoral Castle:

"... Your message of sympathy at this time was very much appreciated. Her Majesty knew how much interest Lord Mountbatten took in the India League and how important the League's activities are in furthering Anglo-Indian relations".

FLORAL TRIBUTES

Before a white-flower-garlanded portrait of Lord Mountbatten, various Indian organisations and individuals paid their floral tributes, under the direction of Mrs Champaben Vadgama and Ms Kusoom Vadgama, Mrs Tripti Das sang a song favourite at Mahatma Gandhi's prayer meetings and often heard by Lord and Lady Mountbatten when they were in India.

Mr M. Hidayatulla, Vice-President of India, who represented India at the funeral service for Lord Mountbatten on September 5 at the Westminster Abbey, along with Mrs Vijaylakshmi Pandit, Mr G. S. Dhillon, former Speaker of the Lok Sabha (representing the Congress presided over by Mrs Indira Gandhi) and others were received by Dr K. S. Shelvankar, former Ambassador of India in Moscow, Mr Silverman, Mr H. S. Raychaudhuri, General Secretary and Warden of the hostel, and Mrs Raychaudhuri, Dr S. D. Malaiperuman, Dr and Mrs K. C. Bhattacharyya, Mr Rajaiv Jalota, Chairman of the hostel's Student Committee, Dr Tarapada Basu, General Secretary of the League, Mr Kanak Majumder, and several others of the League, hostel, and organisations.

Before entering the hostel and hall and speaking to the students of the hostel, India's Vice-President garlanded the statue of Krishna Menon located on the promenade of nearby Fitzroy Square.

MESSAGES

Mr Silverman and Dr Basu read the special messages (see col. 5) sent to the League for the meeting.

Messages personally conveyed to the meeting were from: They Mayor of Camden, Mr C. M. Master, President, Indian Gymkhana Club, Mr H. S. Raychaudhuri, Mr V. D. Sharma, President, Indian Workers' Association, Southall, Mr R. C. Chakravarti, Acting President, Indian Chamber of Commerce in Britain, Mr H. S. Ruprah, President, Indian Overseas Congress, and Mr J. K. Gohel, Vice-

Continued on page 5, col. 4

MESSAGES

received for the India League's Memorial Meeting for Lord Mountbatten on Friday 7 September, 1979 at the Mahatma Gandhi Hall, 41 Fitzroy Square, London W1.

FROM SHRI CHARAN SINGH, Prime Minister of India:

The death of Lord Mountbatten came as a rude shock to us. We were looking forward to his visit to India this year. Lord Mountbatten was a distinguished soldier and rose to the highest offices but we will particularly remember him as the last Viceroy and the first Governor-General of India. His sympathy for Indian aspirations and his capacity for making friends impelled us to invite him to continue as Head of State after independence, 1947-48 was not an easy period for India. There were communal tensions, a large scale exchange of population and then Mahatma Gandhi's assassination. Lord Mountbatten's wise counsel helped us considerably. The transition to a new relationship with the British people and India's joining the Commonwealth were considerably smoothed through the link we had with Lord Mountbatten. Mountbatten has become a part of our history.

FROM MRS MARGARET THATCHER, MP, Prime Minister of Britain:

I join with you and those gathered at the Memorial Meeting of the India League in paying homage to the memory of a great man. The reactions to Lord Mountbatten's tragic death throughout the world, and most particularly the moving response of the people of India, have been a fitting tribute to achievements of his remarkable career. I know that in India Lord Mountbatten was regarded with especial warmth and affection, and that he had been looking forward recently to the visit to India which he had planned for later this year. I share with you a great sense of loss.

FROM MRS INDIRA GANDHI:

I am deeply grieved to learn of Lord Mountbatten's death. What a ghastly tragedy! Lord Mountbatten played a vital part in the transfer of power to India. As Governor-General, he showed sympathy and understanding of the complex problems of that critical period. This was the basis of his friendship with my father and our family, and other important Indian leaders.

Lord Mountbatten was an extraordinary personality and a born leader of men. His remarkable good looks and command of whatever subject was under discussion made him stand out in any gathering. He rose to the

Continued on page 5, col. 5



A section of the audience at the Indian Overseas Congress at Southall Independence Day celebrations.

Photo: Madan Arora

On other pages

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- What the Indian Papers say 6
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- So it's reported 8



At the India League memorial meeting, Lord Mountbatten's portrait (which was placed on the left of the platform) bedecked with Indian national flag and the British Union Jack with floral tributes from organisations and individuals.

On the platform (from left) Mr C. M. Master, the Mayor of Camden, Dr I. P. Singh, Vice-President Hidayatulla, Mr Julius Silverman, Mrs Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Dr K. S. Shelvankar, Mr P. N. Haksar and the Mayor of Islington. (Back row, from left) Mr H. S. Ruprah, Mr R. C. Chakravarti, Dr Tarapada Basu, and Mr J. K. Gohel.

Photo: Madan Arora

In the States

PUNJAB

Janata leaves coalition cabinet

The 25-month old Akali-Janata coalition in Punjab came to an end following the acceptance of resignations of all the five Janata ministers by the governor. Mr Jaisukhlal Hadhi, on the recommendation of the chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal.

The Janata ministers had resigned immediately after their coalition partner decided last month to withdraw support to the Desai government in favour of Mr Charan Singh.

The resignations were handed over to Mr Badal by the Janata party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, in New Delhi on August 19.

Mr Tandon who is also the leader of the Janata legislature party, told newsmen that his party would sit in the opposition and support the Akali government on "merit". He held "inner contradictions" in the Akali party responsible for the break in the alliance and said Mr Balal himself was reluctant till the last moment to accept the resignations.

Mr Badal, in a statement said that it was with a heavy heart that he had recommended for acceptance the resignations of the five Janata ministers. "Though we will not be together in the government, I look forward to close cooperation from them in the interest of the state," Mr Badal said.

Mr Badal recalled the association between the two parties particularly after the declaration of the emergency and said they fought together for the restoration of civil liberties and the rights of the people. Besides, he said, he got full cooperation from his five colleagues as a result of which the tasks of development and progress could be carried out in the state. "It is, therefore, with a deep regret that I have to recommend for acceptance their resignations," he said.

KERALA

State polls may be unavoidable

The fall-out from the crisis that led to the announcement of parliamentary poll is becoming increasingly dense in the states some of which will find assembly elections unavoidable as a way out.

At least Kerala will find little option if the national alignments now being talked out materialise.

Particularly relevant to Kerala is the alliance of leftist parties recently mooted. The CPM with which other leftist parties want a tie-up at the national level will insist on the break-up of the CPI-led ruling front in the state.

The conference convened included representatives of the Congress party and the CPI, both of which are represented in the government while the CPM is the main opposition group in Kerala.

Apart from West Bengal, Kerala is one state where an alliance on the lines proposed could bring in reasonable gains for the partners. Even so, the Marxists would in their interests have to ally with others. The Marxists' strategy in Kerala would be to isolate Mrs Gandhi's party. The Janata party is no major force at all in the state.

In the context of the alliance that is sought to be created in the state that will include the CPM, the CPI, the Congress (Antony group) and other partners in the ruling front.

It is not unlikely that the CPM would insist on the break-up of the ruling front, which will inevitably lead to elections to the legislative assembly as a condition for alliance elsewhere.

KARNATAKA

Urs to face assembly this month

The Karnataka assembly is being summoned in the third week of September to enable the chief minister, Mr D. Devaraj Urs, to prove his majority on the floor of the house. This follows submission to the Governor by Congress (I), asserting that after defections from Mr Urs's Karnataka Congress, the chief minister's following had dwindled into a minority, a contention hotly disputed by Mr Urs.

RIVAL STRATEGY

Mr Urs, who walked out of the Indira camp two months ago protesting that he was being treated like a "bond-

ed labour," carried into his new party (Karnataka Congress) a majority of the Congress (I) members in the assembly. Since then, there has been much floor-crossing.

Mr Urs has already said that even if it were to be assumed that for the sake of argument that he had lost his majority in his party, he would prove his majority in the assembly.

It appears to be Mr Urs's intention to stay on in office while the mid-term Lok Sabha election is held, but the Congress (I) would like to bring him down in the meantime.

On the floor of the house, the Janata, which has about 40 members, is likely to support Mr Urs. The Congress (I), which has given a list of 54 members as its followers to the governor, expects to attract more members to its side to such an extent that it will be able to form an alternative government.

It is one of those paradoxes in present day politics. The legislature Janata party in Karnataka, which previously strove for Mr Urs's ouster, may stand by him if his position is seriously threatened.

But this is no long-term commitment either on the part of the Janata or Mr Urs's party. The Janata party's immediate aim is to prevent the Urs ministry from falling only to avoid a mid-term poll to the assembly.

Any alliance between Mr Urs and the Janata party in the forthcoming Lok Sabha election is not in the mind of either.

HARYANA

Likely voting pattern

With the Lok Sabha mid-term poll not far off, the election outlook in Haryana is far from wholly unfavourable to the Janata party.

Despite its failings, the party appears to have gained the sympathy of the weaker sections mainly because of the denial of an opportunity to a Harijan leader to become prime minister. The Haryana Backward Classes Federation submitted a memorandum to the chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, which criticised the President's actions in dissolving the Lok Sabha and doing "great injustice" to them by refusing to call Mr Jagjivan Ram to form a government.

The Janata (S) is associated in the public mind in Haryana landlords of a particular caste who had in the past prevented the weaker sections from exercising their voting rights.

The Janata gave a big push to its poll campaign by organising rallies in various towns to oppose the President's action. Several ministers participated in the rallies.

The vote of the weaker sections is likely to be divided between the Janata party and the Congress (I) and the votes of the landowning class are expected to be split between both Janata parties.

Indications are that there will be triangular contests in each of the ten constituencies in the state. The Congress (I) is expected to pose a big challenge to Mr Chand Ram, Union minister of state, in the Sirsa (reserved) constituency. The position of Mr M. S. Lather, who won a by-election in 1978, may be threatened in Karnal by his old Congress (I) rival, Mr Chiranjial Sharma.

Mr Mukhtiar Singh, the state Janata chief, may find the going tough despite the RSS cadre's backing if Mrs Gavatri Devi, wife of Mr Charan Singh, contests from Sonapat.

The picture of the partywise election prospects will become clear only when the names of the various candidates are announced.

Meanwhile, the state election office has started making preliminary preparations for the poll that will involve over 6.5 million voters. The number of voters in 1977 was nearly 5.8 million.

Janata (S) wants BLD symbol

The Janata (S) has staked before the election commission its claim to retain the symbol of "haldhar with wheel" on the ground that it is the real Janata party.

In a petition filed before the chief election commissioner, the Janata (S) has said that the group headed by Mr Charan Singh has ceased to be the Janata party. It said that the Janata party headed by Mr Raj Narain should be recognised as the Janata party.

It said that almost all the members of the erstwhile BLD whose election symbol was adopted by the Janata party, had joined the Janata (S).

GUJARAT

Cong. (I) main challenger

The electoral battle in Gujarat will mainly be fought between the ruling Janata party and the Congress (I), the main opposition in the state assembly. Though it is too early to forecast, the Janata (S) and the Congress may have to be content with playing side roles in the ring.

The prospects of the Janata (S) and the Congress coming together in the state appears to be dim. The leadership of the Gujarat Congress is averse to having any truck with the Janata (S). Left to itself the Congress would like to go it alone.

Barring the Union minister for commerce, Mr Hiendra Desai, who is also a member of the party's high command, most of the party's state leaders do not want to align with any political party in the coming elections. To them, the former chief minister and the convener of the Gujarat Janata (S), Mr Chimanbhai Patel, who was the main target of the Nav Nirman movement in Gujarat, appears to be the main liability.

ADJUSTMENT OF SEATS

However, the leaders of the state party may agree to make adjustments of seats with the Janata (S).

The Janata party and the Congress (I) are likely to contest all the 26 Lok Sabha seats, while the Janata (S) and the Congress may put up five to six candidates each. All the major political parties are likely to sponsor their sitting members, barring a few exceptions.

Of the 26 seats, the Janata party had bagged 16 in the 1977 Lok Sabha poll and the remaining 10 had gone to the undivided Congress party. After the split in both the Janata party and the Congress, the ruling party in the state had retained its members. One had gone to the Janata (S) five to the Congress (I), four to the Congress. One Congress member had remained untached.

UTTAR PRADESH

Das survives no-confidence motion

The Banarsi Das cabinet survived a motion of no confidence against it in the Uttar Pradesh assembly. The motion was defeated by 218 votes to 197. Five votes were declared invalid.

The seven-hour debate on the motion was marked by a powerful indictment of the Janata (S) ministry by the Congress (I) leader, Mr N. D. Tewari. The speech of Mr Raj Mangal Pande, who replaced Mr Tewari as opposition leader was mild in tenor.

Mr Pande charged the Janata (S) leadership with having entered into a secret pact with the Congress (I) to split the Janata party.

Mr Banarsi Das denied the suggestion that he was holding out the threat of dissolution of the assembly to ensure that there was no erosion of support. He reiterated that continuance of his ministry in office would suit the interests of his party in the forthcoming Lok Sabha poll.

Referring to the formation of the Janata (S), he said what had happened was a split, and not defection.

From the Janata benches, a young Muslim member, who once belonged to the Jana Sangh, Mr Mohammed Ashfaq, said he was pained to see the Janata (S) leadership entering into an agreement with the Congress (I) "over the body of Mrs Snehlata Reddy" (who was detained in a Bangalore jail during the emergency). He described Mr Raj Narain as a communal-minded person, who organised *akhbar kirtans* and also talked of secularism.

Mr Pande too reminded the chief minister of the emergency excesses and wondered how Mr Banarsi Das, himself a victim, could erase such memories from his mind within so short a period.

Mr N. D. Tewari described the Banarsi Das ministry as a "minority regime," which should gracefully quit. He said there had been as many as 55 instances of police firing since the Janata Party assumed office. There had been a steep fall in cement production. The power supply had dwindled, seriously affecting industrial growth.

Shortage of diesel oil had hit the operation of pumping sets used for irrigation. The price spiral had remained unchecked. In the universities, courses meant to be covered in the course of one year had been rushed through in just four months to make for the loss of time.

MAHARASHTRA

Politics in a flux

A correspondent writes:

The politics in Maharashtra are again in a flux. The recent goings-on have deeply eroded Mr Y. B. Chavan's hold in the state. Mr Chavan had chosen to bat on a slippery wicket when he continued to lead the Congress (S) parliamentary party at the Centre while backing Mr Sharad Pawar's breakaway "parallel" Congress in the state. His position has become even more incongruous since he helped oust the Janata from power in New Delhi while that party is still the major constituent of Mr Pawar's coalition government in Maharashtra. The decision of many prominent leaders of the Congress (S) in Maharashtra, including Mr Vasantdada Patil and Mr Tidke, to leave it and join the Congress (I) will virtually mark the end of that party as a major

force in state politics. True, not all legislators belonging to the Congress (S) may go along with Mr Patil and Mr Tidke and cross the floor. Already some party MLAs headed by Mr Madhukarrao Chaudhary are said to have decided to resist the former's move. But politically they are lightweights and are unlikely to count for much in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections. The main battle in the mid-term poll is likely to be joined by the Congress (I) and the Janata with the "parallel" Congress, the Congress (S), the PWP and other smaller groups playing the relatively small role.

The possible impact of all this on the complexion and fate of the Pawar ministry is still hazy. New alignments are being formed in preparation for the mid-term poll and many politicians and groups are about to change sides while some have actually done so. About half a dozen MLAs belonging to the Janata have broken away to form Janata (S) and the chief minister has publicly asked Mrs Shanti Naik, minister of state for finance in his cabinet, to resign "voluntarily" after her decision to join that party. Meanwhile, Mr George Fernandes and Mr Madhu Limaye are straining every nerve to secure further accretions to it from the socialist constituent of the Janata. The decision of the state finance minister, Mr S. B. Chavan, to pull out of the ruling Progressive Democratic Front and join the Congress (I) marks a setback, albeit a relatively small one, for Mr Pawar. All in all, the cohesion of both the Janata and his own "parallel" Congress is under strain and no one quite knows whether or how many will cross over to which party and when. Fortunately for the chief minister, the state assembly is not in session and he can hope that some groups — the rump Congress (S), for instance — will agree to support him in case the majority of the ruling coalition is threatened.

BIHAR

Karpoori heads alliance

The Janata (S)-Congress combination in alliance with the CPI, the CPM and other left democratic forces will contest all the 54 Lok Sabha seats in Bihar in the forthcoming mid-term election, according to the leader of the opposition in the state assembly Mr Karpoori Thakur.

Mr Thakur said that the alliance would inflict a crushing defeat on the Janata and the Congress (I) who represented "communal and authoritarian forces".

Election Commission calls parties to meeting

Although a one-day poll to the Lok Sabha is favoured by the election commission, the possibility of its being extended to two-days in some areas is under examination.

Whether it will be a one-day or a two-day poll will depend on a sober and realistic assessment of the law and order situation in the country.

A special group of senior officials has been constituted in the Union home ministry to co-ordinate election activities with the election commission and to make a thorough study of the law and order problem.

The assessment of this special group will be available to the conference of chief secretaries of states to be inaugurated by the deputy prime minister and home minister Mr Y. B. Chavan, in New Delhi on September 15.

The chief secretaries taking part in the conference will give their own assessment of the law and order situation in their respective areas on the basis of which a decision on whether polling should take place on one or two days will be taken.

VIOLENCE FEARED

Since apprehensions are being expressed about the possibility of violence breaking out during the mid-term polls in view of the bitter feuding among political parties and groups, the chief secretaries' conference would identify the sensitive areas in the country for purposes of deployment of police personnel.

The police force available with the Centre and the states is not unlimited and home ministry officials, in consultation with the election commission and the state governments, will have to determine how to deploy it to ensure the best possible results.

If the sensitive areas are far too many and the police personnel far too inadequate to tackle the violence in case it breaks out, then polling will have to be spread over two days.

PARTIES CALLED

Interestingly, the election commission favours a one-day poll also on the law and order issue. In its view, the goonda menace would be less destructive if polling is confined to one day rather than if the goondas are able to move from one constituency to another in case of a two-day poll. Meanwhile, the chief election

TRIPURA

CPM to contest both seats

Political activity is gathering momentum in Tripura where the CPM reportedly plans to contest both the Lok Sabha seats in the mid-term poll. One of the seats is reserved for the scheduled tribes.

In the 1977 poll, the CPM had lost these seats to the CFD candidate, Mr S. L. Singh, and the Congress nominee, Mr Kirit Bikram Deboarma. Mr Dasrath Deb and Mr Biren Dutta, two senior party leaders, who had won the seats for the CPM in the earlier election, are now members of the state cabinet and unlikely to enter the election fray.

The Congress, the Congress (I), the Janata, the Tripura Upajati Yuba Samiti and the Amra Bangali too may contest the elections. The Samiti is a regional tribal organisation and had won in the last assembly election four of the 60 seats. It is the only opposition party in the assembly.

There is no love lost between the Samiti, and the CPM which are rivals in local politics.

The Congress is awaiting instructions from Delhi. In the event of an alliance among the Janata (S), the Congress and the CFD, at the national level, Mr S. L. Singh, member of the dissolved Lok Sabha may stake his claim for re-election as the alliance nominee.

The Janata (S) is yet to strike roots in the state. The local Janata is a combination of a section of former Congressmen, the Jana Sangh and Socialist elements. But the Janata is yet to be built up a cohesive unit.

Morarji not candidate

The former Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Desai, will not contest the election to the Lok Sabha. Talking to newsmen in Rajkot, Mr Desai said he had taken this decision in response to the call of his conscience.

MP joins Cong-I

Mr Ramgopal Reddy, Lok Sabha member from Nizamabad constituency, in Andhra Pradesh, has resigned from the Congress and joined the Congress-I.

Mr Reddy said that he had written letters to both Congress President Swaran Singh and Deputy Prime Minister Y. B. Chavan. He said he had also informed the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Dr M. Chenna Reddy, of his decision to join the Congress-I.

commissioner, Mr S. L. Shakkher, has convened a meeting of representatives of all national and state parties in the capital on September 12.

Mr Shakkher's anxiety is to evolve a code of conduct for the political parties contesting the elections.

Mr Shakkher disclosed that no voter would have to travel beyond one and a half km. to reach the nearest polling booth. It will be possible for a voter to walk down to the booth to cast his vote. This is important in view of the proposed ban on vehicles by political parties parking near the booths.

Mr Shakkher said separate booths for Harijans and Adivasis would be set up in localities where they resided in large numbers. The criterion of a minimum of 700 voters per booth will be waived in such cases.

POSSIBLE DATES

While no firm election dates had been fixed yet, Mr Shakkher said that the results would be in by December 31 so that the new Lok Sabha could meet early in 1980.

Work of revision of electoral rolls was being taken up immediately. Enumeration work would begin on September 1. Enumerators would visit all households in the country, estimated at 60 million for a total electorate of more than 320 million. (In one state, Mr Shakkher remarked, electoral rolls had not been revised for 13 years).

With regard to counting of votes, Mr Shakkher said that all political parties had agreed to revert to the boothwise system. He had recommended this procedure to the government and he expected the government's formal approval in due course. He said that boothwise counting yielded quicker results.

Mr Shakkher said there was no governmental interference in the election commission's work. The presence of representatives of political parties in every booth would prevent irregularities. The police could influence voters before the poll but not in the polling day.

The problem of booth capturing occurred in only some constituencies in West Bengal and Bihar and the election commission was taking steps to prevent it.

What the Indian papers say

Lord Mountbatten

The death of Lord Louis Mountbatten would have been deeply mourned in India even if it had occurred in less tragic circumstances. As it is, his life has been cruelly cut short by mindless terrorism. Few Britons have endeared themselves to the older generation of Indian leaders and, in their day, to Indian crowds, as he did. As the last Viceroy, he presided over the withdrawal of British power from the sub-continent and though, like the Indian leaders, he reluctantly agreed to partition as the price of independence in terms of his mandate from London, the energy and the understanding that he brought to bear on the task won him the abiding respect, admiration and affection of the Indian people. Whether the sub-continent could have been spared the communal carnage that it suffered during its birth to freedom if Lord Mountbatten had not hustled the final stages has been a matter of debate since in Britain and at home. But there can be no doubt that Indian leaders from the Mahatma down had nothing but respect for the role he played in those momentous, if harrowing, months. Indeed, the invitation extended to him to serve as its first constitutional governor-general was the ultimate tribute that the country could pay to any Briton. Lord Mountbatten handsomely justified the trust by sparing no effort to ensure the integration of princely states. It was not his fault that the problems of Kashmir and Hyderabad continued to nag New Delhi even after he left. Throughout his subsequent career in the Royal Navy and as the head of joint chiefs of staff in Britain he continued to display a lively concern for India's welfare. With his passing away, the country has lost a true friend.

— *Times of India*, 29 August

A hopeful sign

The surrender to the police of Mr Malsawma Coloney, who for some time was the President of the outlawed Naga National Front, along with five of

his close associates, is a hopeful sign. They have affirmed their allegiance to the Constitution and offered to extend full cooperation to the authorities in restoring peace in Mizoram. After the renunciation of violence by Mr Biakchunga, the former chief of the "Mizo National Army" and his friends last year, Mr Coloney's decision marks yet another major setback for the underground hostiles. A faction of the MNF, which owes allegiance to Mr Laldenga, is still not prepared to lay down arms; in fact, it was responsible for the wave of violence that rocked Mizoram in July. By staging spectacular attacks on non-Mizo officials, government buildings and police stations, this faction had apparently hoped to frustrate the efforts of Brig T. Sailo, the chief minister to consolidate peace. But the decisive victory of his People's Conference in the elections four months ago was a clear indication of the growing desire of most Mizos to put an end to whatever remains of the insurgency and share the benefits of development. The fact that Mr Coloney has finally broken away from the MNF shows that Mr Laldenga's hold on the diminishing bands of underground rebels has further weakened.

There is, however, no room for complacency. Although Mr Laldenga has been under arrest in Delhi since July, his fanatical followers can only be expected to try and create trouble whenever they can. Estimates of their number vary from five hundred to eight hundred. They are well-equipped and have sanctuaries in the Chittagong hills tract across the Indo-Bangladesh border. There cannot, therefore, be the slightest relaxation in vigilance against their depredations. Maintaining security apparatus in trim, however, is only a part of the task ahead. What is equally important is to implement measures to ameliorate the conditions of the Mizos with requisite vigour. In particular, the government has to win the confidence of the former hostiles who have abjured violence and help them in every way to settle down in peaceful vocations. Brig Sailo has already drawn up plans to settle some of them on small plots of land and help rehabilitate the others as small shopkeepers or distributors of controlled commodities like foodgrains and kerosene. Besides, the grouping of villages for security reasons has brought immense misery to the people

in general and must be undone. Such groupings were given up in Nagaland in 1967 and the move paid rich dividends. Above all, compensation and arrears of rent due to Mizos for property used by the security forces must be paid immediately to win their goodwill. The sum involved is small — barely Rs 21.71 lakhs in the aggregate — and there is no reason why it cannot be disbursed within a month or two by the Central government, as Brig Sailo has indeed suggested.

— *Times of India*, 3 Sept.

Steady rise in exchange reserves

At a time when most other developing nations are in dire straits because of the phenomenal increase in the price of crude and other import items, India's foreign exchange reserves have continued to rise steadily much to the surprise of some finance ministry officials who had expected a fall of Rs 10,000 million.

When OPEC hiked its price by five per cent at the beginning of January, India's reserves (excluding gold and SDRs) stood at Rs 48,903.5 million. By the beginning of April, when the next price increase was announced, the reserves had increased further to Rs 52,200 million. Oil prices continued to rise, but so did reserves, touching Rs 23,940 million in mid-June. They then stabilised in July, ending up at Rs 54,400 million. The Reserve Bank has not finalised the figure for August.

One reason why the balance of payments remains on an even keel is that exports are doing unexpectedly well.

Move to revive Jana Sangh

A national convention of former Jana Sangh members will be held in New Delhi on October 5 and 6 by the former Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

Announcing this at a press conference, Prof. Balraj Madhok, one of the founders of the former Jana Sangh with the late Dr Shyama Prasad Mukerjee and one of its former presidents, said what India needed today was a powerful nationalist political party.

He said the Jana Sangh would be revised and the party would put up

candidates for the Lok Sabha elections. He had been invited to contest from Aligarh.

Prof. Madhok ridiculed his former colleagues who were now in the Janata party, particularly Mr A. B. Vajpayee and Mr L. K. Advani, for what he called their "perverted spirit of secularism."

Libya stops oil supply

Libya has suspended supply of crude oil to India out of a pique over the working of the nuclear co-operation agreement signed between the two countries last year.

Libya is known to have indicated its reservations about the extent of facilities made available by India to its scientists and technicians in the nuclear field.

While India maintained that most other countries with which it has similar agreement have been happy with its record of co-operation it wanted Libya to precisely indicate what the complaint was about.

Indications are that Libya's idea of getting tangible co-operation is perhaps in respect of applied technology which India does not possess nor does it intend to develop.

India's ambassador in Tripoli, Mr Narendra Singh, has taken the matter up at the highest level possible to explain India's difficulties. Indian policy planners are confident that judging by the splendid record of bilateral co-operation between the two countries in recent years, it would not be difficult to overcome this misunderstanding.

ICAR jubilee

Inaugurating the golden jubilee symposium of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in New Delhi on 3 September, President Sanjiva Reddy has called upon agricultural scientists to suggest methods for improving productivity of land to ensure better income and employment potential. He said this was necessary because of increasing population pressure on land. The President emphasised the need for maintaining a proper balance between national food security systems and ecology.

Nearly 600 scientists including 100 from over 30 countries took part in the five-day symposium and convention.

Zia's assurance on atom bomb

While in Havana, External Affairs Minister S. N. Mishra called on Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq on 3 September. In their 40 minute meeting, General Zia assured India that his country did not believe in utility of a nuclear bomb. Neither Pakistan had the capacity to make a bomb, nor was she interested in making one. General Zia reaffirmed that Pakistan's intentions in the nuclear field were purely peaceful.

President Zia has written to Prime Minister Charan Singh that Pakistan had no intent to make an atom bomb.

Janata support crumbling

There appears to be a possibility of the Assam chief minister, Mr Golap Borbora, submitting the resignation of his ministry and recommending a mid-term poll for the state assembly.

This follows the resignation from the Janata party of Mr Jogendra Hazarika, speaker of the state assembly. His resignation reduced the party's strength in the 126-member house to 40. Added to this is the decision of some opposition parties, including the CPM and the CPI, not to support the Borbora ministry in the event of a trial of strength.

The strength of the JLP had eroded irreparably with the resignation by over 33 per cent of its members, reducing the ruling party to a minority. Mr Hazarika said, and added "it becomes increasingly difficult for me to remain unconcerned."

Mr Hazarika's resignation from the primary membership of the Janata party has added a new dimension to the already baffling political situation in the state. The Janata dissidents, who have since formed a new party, the Assam Janata Dal, see a ray of hope for their emergence as a powerful political force, following Mr Hazarika's dissociation from the ruling Janata party.

It may be pointed out that the MLA's of three left parties — CPM, CPI and RCPI — had hitherto supported the Borbora ministry in the assembly. Together, these parties have a strength of 21 in the house.

Love — arranged or chosen kind

An Indian wedding — an arranged wedding. The bride sits, modestly, eyes downcast, laden with her jewelled finery. Beside her, the groom, the man who has been chosen to be her partner for life. This system of arranged marriages has the precedent of many years in its favour, surely any Indian girl would be thankful for it. Both bride and groom come from similar backgrounds, their future goals are planned, the chance of divorce is remote, as in that case stigma would befall both families, and as most people say: "love" will grow.

A wedding guest, a girl of the same age as the bride, also a Hindu, watches the proceedings as she draws on a cigarette, and smiles. She will never have an arranged marriage — she is not pure — she has experienced the pain and pleasures of the flesh. Perhaps for a minute or two she feels a stab of envy, but deep within her she knows, that even if she remains on her own forever, at least the kind of love she has given and received, she can cherish always. She has known laughter; she has known tears, she has soared to the heights, she has plummeted to the depths. Unlike the couple before her, a lifetime of mediocrity and numbed "arranged" emotion will not be her fate. No, she decided a long time ago to take risks, follow where love beckoned her. Just one of her memories, with hurt and sweetness intermingled, will outweigh the kind of experience that will take today's bride and groom a lifetime to achieve. Love is not something that can be arranged for two people — only when two people truly feel it, and wish to make a legal declaration to the world, only then should a marriage take place. Life is too short. For this girl maturity means the ability to make her own decisions, to take risks, and the consequences. She will play with fire, she will get burned, but she will never spend her days playing at love, and never knowing its ecstasies and tragedies. At least she will be a human being who can feel.

She puts out her cigarette and heads for the exit. Alone and vulnerable, in the outside clouds she walks towards her future. Not one that has been decided for her, but one that she will choose, unpredictable and brimming with promise.

Anu Sayal

More Soviet heavy water for India

The Soviet Union has recently agreed in principle to supply India an additional 200 tonnes of heavy water and further discussions in regard to details are to be held. Prime Minister Morarji Desai said in the Rajya last week.

He told Mr Pattam Rajan that Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin made an offer for the supply of enriched uranium during his recent visit to that country. But the matter was not pursued in view of the existing agreement with the United States (for supply of nuclear fuel to Tarapur atomic energy plant).

Minister of State for Atomic Energy Sher Singh replied in the negative when asked whether India was expected to be self-sufficient by the end of 1983 to meet recurring demand for heavy water.

He told Mr Pattam Rajan in a written reply that of the existing five heavy water plants, only three had gone into production. However, the plant at Baroda had to be shut down due to the accidental explosion on 3 December, 1977.

Mr Singh said the production at Tuticorin plant was adversely affected due to higher frequency of outages of the fertilizer plant to which it is linked and power failures.

The commissioning of the remaining two plants, Talcher and Kota, was delayed due to various factors. Consequently, production of heavy water had been below targets, he added.

100 million years old fossil discovered

The remains of a Stegosaur, a fossil reptile which lived on earth more than a hundred million years ago, have already been discovered by an Indian paleontologist in Mandla area (Madhya Pradesh state). After a careful study by scientists, this find will be forwarded to the local archaeological museum.

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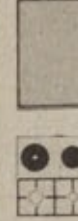
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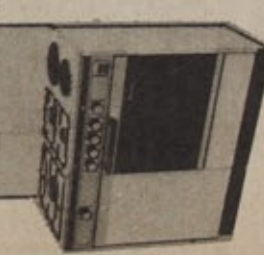
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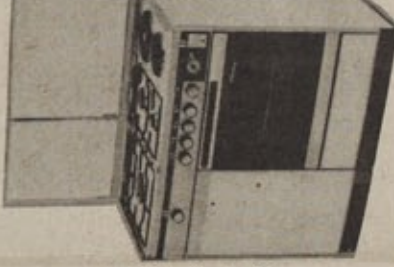
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Deaths

GRS 65

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TO PRIORITY LAGOS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 673 OF 17 SEPTEMBER.

YOUR TELNO 678: EARL MOUNTBATTEN

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING 'REPLY FROM PRIME MINISTER TO
MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY FROM ALHAJI SHAGARI
BEGINS

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR MESSAGE ON THE DEATH OF EARL
MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA. I MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS
EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY.

MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS

CARRINGTON

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No. 10 DOWNING STREET

He

15 September 1979

Death of Earl Mountbatten

Thank you for your letter of 14 September enclosing a draft reply which the Prime Minister might send to the Nepalese Ambassador here.

The text is approved. I think however it would be better if in this case, as in all the others with which we have dealt, the reply was delivered by the Embassy in Kathmandu.

MO'DBA

He

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



File LB

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 September 1979

DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN

Your letters to me of 12 and 13 September contain the texts of draft replies from the Prime Minister to the Nigerian President-Elect and the Chairman of Bhavans International to messages from them on the death of Earl Mountbatten.

The replies can issue.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

R M J Lyne Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

GRS 150

UNCLASSIFIED

*LS
Pms*

FM FCO

TO PRIORITY SAN JOSE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 71 OF 14 SEPTEMBER

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR IN LONDON:

BEGINS

'DEAR PRIME MINISTER

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO PRESENT TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MY GOVERNMENT'S PROFOUND CONDOLENCE ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA AND MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY.

I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE EVENT, WHICH IS PRODUCT OF THE MOST SAVAGE AND BRUTAL ATTACK, IS CONDEMNED BY THE PEOPLE OF COSTA RICA, AS IT IS BY NATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD.'

ENDS

2. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING REPLY:

BEGINS

'I MUCH APPRECIATED THE MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE FROM THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT OVER THE HORRIFYING MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL SPARE NO EFFORT IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND IN ENDEAVOURING TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH OUTRAGES.'

CARRINGTON

NNNN

FILES

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FM FCO 141510Z SEP 79

TO PRIORITY BANGKOK

TEL NO 238 OF 14 SEPTEMBER

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T101A/79

EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA

1. THE THAI AMBASSADOR HAS CONVEYED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

BEGINS:

'EXCELLENCY, IT IS WITH THE DEEPEST SORROW THAT I HAVE LEARNT OF THE TRAGIC AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, WHO WAS A GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND OF THAILAND. IN THIS HOUR OF GRIEF, I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND, THROUGH YOU, TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE AS WELL AS HIS BEREAVED FAMILY OUR PROFOUND CONDOLENCES AND HEARTFELT SYMPATHY. KRIANGSAK CHOMANAN, PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND'.

ENDS

2. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING REPLY.

BEGINS:

'THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA WHICH WAS INDEED A GREAT SHOCK TO ME AND TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN AS WELL AS TO HIS FAMILY. THE TRIBUTES WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM HIS MANY FRIENDS ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE A CONSOLATION AND A REMINDER THAT WE DO NOT GRIEVE ALONE. I AM ARRANGING FOR YOUR MESSAGE TO BE CONVEYED TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY.

MARGARET THATCHER'.

ENDS

CARRINGTON

NNNN

DIST

FCO/WHI

SEAD



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

La
14 14 September 1979
15/5

Dear Michael,

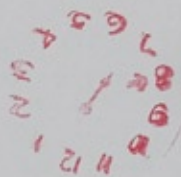
DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN: CONDOLENCES
FROM NEPAL

--- As requested in your letter of
3 September, I enclose a draft reply
which the Prime Minister might send
to Mr Singha, the Nepalese Ambassador,
in response to his letter of 29 August.

yours ever
Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street



114 SEP 1979

Registry
No.

DRAFT LETTER

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:- His Excellency
Mr J N Singha CVO
Royal Nepalese Embassy
12A Kensington Palace Gardens
London W8

From

Prime Minister

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

Thank you for your letter of 29 August about Lord Mountbatten.

I should be grateful if you would convey to The Rt Hon Surya Bahadur Thapa the following reply:

"I much appreciated your message of condolence over the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. We have all been stunned by his murder and your message is a sad reminder of how widely his loss will be felt throughout the world."

T



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 September 1979

DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN

You wrote to me on 12 September enclosing the text of a reply which the Prime Minister might send to the message received from the Government of Costa Rica. The text of the message is approved but, since it comes in the name of the Government of Costa Rica, I think it would be better delivered by Mr Brown in San Jose. The Costa Rican message received a formal acknowledgement from me when it was delivered. I do not think that any further action in London is called for.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Ray Pringle, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 September 1979

Replied. Ls. Pmb
Dear Michael,

Earl Mountbatten: Message of Sympathy to the
Prime Minister from the Nigerian President-Elect

Dated 1.9.79

/ I attach a copy of telegram No 678 from
Lagos which gives the text of a message of con-
dolence on the death of Earl Mountbatten to the
Prime Minister from the President-elect of
Nigeria. A short reply would be appropriate
and helpful to the process of establishing good
working relations with the new civilian
/ Government. A draft telegram to Lagos is
accordingly attached.

yours ever

Roderic Lyne

R M J Lyne

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

GRS 100

CLASSIFIED

DESKBY 011500Z

FROM LAGOS 011200Z SEP 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 678 OF 01 SEPTEMBER

DISTRIBUTION SELECTORS
FILE COPY

T 96/79T

LORD MOUNTBATTEN

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE, DATED 31 AUGUST, TO
THE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT OF NIGERIA,
ALHAJI SHEHU SHAGARI:-

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE RECEIVED THE VERY SAD AND TRAGIC NEWS OF THE
BRUTAL MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN WITH THE GREATEST SHOCK.

THE CRUEL MURDER OF A MAN THAT WAS SO DEVOTED TO THE
SERVICE OF HIS NATION MUST BE CONDEMNED BY ALL CIVILISED
NATIONS. LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S DEATH IS A LOSS NOT
ONLY TO GREAT BRITAIN BUT TO THE ENTIRE CIVILISED WORLD.

I SEND MY CONDOLENCE TO YOURSELF, THE FAMILY OF LATE LORD
MOUNTBATTEN AND THE PEOPLE OF UNITED KINGDOM IN GENERAL.

YOURS SINCERELY,

ALHAJI SHEHU SHAGARI

BROWN

FCO/WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION

P & C D

File No.
 Department WAD
 Drafted by
 (Block Capitals)
 Tel. Extn.

OUTWARD

TELEGRAM

Security Classification UNCLASSIFIED
Precedence IMMEDIATE PRIORITY
DESKBYZ

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

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

TO ~~IMMEDIATE~~ **PRIORITY** LAGOS Tel. No. of
 (precedence) (post)

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info)

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:—

WAD
 P&CD
 No 10 Downing St.

[TEXT]

YOUR TELNO 678: EARL MOUNTBATTEN

1. Please deliver following reply from
 Prime Minister to message of sympathy from Alhaji Shagari
 BEGINS

Thank you very much for your message on the
 death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. I much appreciate
 your generous expression of sympathy.

Margaret Thatcher

ENDS

Copies to:—



13 SEP 1979



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 September 1979

Dear Michael,

Please refer to your letter of 3 September concerning a message received by the Prime Minister from the Government of Costa Rica about the death of Earl Mountbatten.

/ I attach a draft reply which the Prime Minister may care to send.

Yours sincerely,

Ray Pringle

(R E Pringle)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON

Registry
No.

DRAFT

LETTER

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:-

His Excellency Senor C Gutiérrez-Canas
Embassy of Costa Rica

From

Prime Minister

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

I much appreciated the message of condolence from you personally and from the Costa Rican Government over the horrifying murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

The British Government will spare no effort in its fight against terrorism and in endeavouring to bring to justice those responsible for such outrages.



172 SEP 1978



Original in CR

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 September 1979

Dear Tim,

Thank you for your letter of 31 August, passing on the valuable suggestion that there might be scope for placing a statue of Earl Mountbatten of Burma in the north west corner of Trafalgar Square.

I am most grateful for this idea. Once the immediate impact of last week's tragic events is past, we will certainly want to consider with care an appropriate memorial to Lord Mountbatten, and I will ensure that this suggestion is properly considered.

Yours sincerely

Raymond

Tim Brinton, Esq., M.P.

55

Deaths

file

DS



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 September 1979

Earl Mountbatten of Burma

You wrote to me on 7 September enclosing a message to the Prime Minister from the Prime Minister of Thailand together with a draft reply.

The draft reply is agreed. I should be grateful if you would arrange for its despatch.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

R.E. Pringle, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

DBX



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

7 September 1979

Dear Michael,

EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA

--- I enclose a message of condolence for the Prime Minister, from General Kriangsak, the Prime Minister of Thailand.

--- A draft acknowledgement for Mrs Thatcher's consideration, in a form which can be telegraphed to Bangkok is also enclosed. The acknowledgement is the same as that recently approved for despatch to the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

We shall arrange here for General Kriangsak's condolences to be passed to Lord Mountbatten's family.

Yours sincerely,
Ray Pringle

(R E Pringle)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street



THE ROYAL THAI EMBASSY,
30, QUEEN'S GATE,
LONDON, S.W. 7.

No. 04/1117/2522

PRIME MINISTER'S 29th August 1979

PERSONAL MESSAGE

My Lord,

SERIAL No. **7895/79T**

I have the honour to request Your Lordship's kind assistance in conveying the message from the Prime Minister of Thailand to The Right Honourable Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P. the Prime Minister as follows:-

BEGIN

EXCELLENCY,

IT IS WITH THE DEEPEST SORROW THAT I HAVE LEARNED OF THE TRAGIC AND UNTIMELY DEMISE OF ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, WHO WAS A GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND OF THAILAND.

IN THIS HOUR OF GRIEF, I WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND, THROUGH YOU, TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE AS WELL AS HIS BEREAVED FAMILY OUR PROFOUND CONDOLENCES AND HEARTFELT SYMPATHY.

KRIANGSAK CHOMANAN
PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND

END.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration,

My Lord,

Your obedient Servant,

Phan Wannamethee

(Phan Wannamethee)
Ambassador

The Right Hon. The Lord Carrington, P.C., K.C.M.G., M.C.
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
LONDON.

File No.

OUTWARD

Department SEAD

Drafted by A M Simons

(Block Capitals)

Tel. Extn. 233 3078

TELEGRAM

Security Classification
RESTRICTEDPrecedence
PRIORITY

DESKBY Z

FOR
COMMS. DEPT.
USEDespatched (Date)
(Time) Z

POSTBY Z

PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) Z (G.M.T.)

(Restrictive Prefix)

(Security Class.) RESTRICTED

(Caveat/

Privacy marking)

(Codeword)

(Deskby) Z

TO PRIORITY BANGKOK
(precedence) (post)

Tel. No. of

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info)

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:—

FCO/WH
SEAD

[TEXT]

Earl Mountbatten of Burma

1. The Thai Ambassador has conveyed the
following message to the Prime Minister.

Begins:

"Excellency, it is with the deepest sorrow that I have learnt of the tragic and untimely demise of Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, who was a great and good friend of Thailand. In this hour of grief, I wish to express to Your Excellency and, through you, to the British Government and people as well as his bereaved family our profound condolences and heartfelt sympathy. Kriangsak Chomanan, Prime Minister of Thailand."

Ends.

2. Please convey the following reply:

Copies to:—

Begins:

"Thank you very much for your message of sympathy on the death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma which was indeed a great shock to me and to the Government and people of Great Britain as well as to his family. The tributes we have received from his many friends all over the world are a consolation and a reminder that we do not grieve alone. I am arranging for your message to be conveyed to the bereaved family.

Margaret Thatcher".

Ends.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

LAING

make ideas take shape

The Daily Telegraph

No. 58647. LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1979

Printed in LONDON and MANCHESTER

10p

LET ANSWERS ANSWER YOUR PHONE
From only
£1.50 per week
01-629 9232

Moving farewell at Westminster... then Earl Mountbatten is taken home for burial

QUEEN LEADS MOURNING

Wartime comrades and kings at Abbey tribute

By TONY ALLEN-MILLS

IN A STIRRING display of public courage, the Queen and members of her family put private grief to one side yesterday to lead the nation's mourning at the funeral service of Earl Mountbatten of Burma—the Royal Family's beloved "Uncle Dickie."

*Nation's Grief, and Pictures
—Pages 2 and 3*

Crowds wait all night

BY ANN MORROW
THROUGHOUT the night, the crowds had gathered—gentle and contained. They slept on the pavements and saw the dawn over Westminster—the rise of a brilliant sun which was to make the plumed helmets and veteran's medals glitter as Lord Mountbatten's funeral procession moved slowly to muffled drum beats.

The cortege left the Queen's Chapel at St James's Palace at 10.15 with Lord Mountbatten's Gold Stick and Sword of Honour resting on top of the coffin.

"Those Yanks move their arms so gently," said a man in the crowd watching the pale-faced American Servicemen from the United States who seemed to move much less formally to the slow march.

Jaunty French

Next came the French Marines—jaunty, almost sumptuous in their uniforms, with the Sikhs in white turbans, Guards officers sometimes chivvied the procession urging some to go a little faster. The shining boots of the RAF detachment seemed to pause so long they hardly left the ground.

As night have been expected the Guards in their black pill-box hats moved superbly as did the survivors of Lord Mountbatten's command, Kelly.

While the Household Cavalry beat drums with black horses, the "street liners" from the Services bowed their heads.

Two young officers led 120 men of the Life Guards with their eyes down under peaked caps.

The Marines in white helmets marched to time held by the band.

There was a stillness as the gun carriage came through the Horse Guards Arch into White Hall.

It was drawn by 151 officers and men of the Royal Navy with "Dolly"—Lord Mount-

continued on Back P. Col 3

It was a solemn, deeply-moving occasion, full of the brilliant pageantry and disciplined ceremonial that the murdered Earl loved so much.

The majestic setting of Westminster Abbey, the simple black dresses of the royal women, the magnificent uniforms of the men, the careful tread of the Naval bearer party, the soaring voices of the choir; all these combined to form an emotional expression of gratitude for the Earl's life, and sorrow at his death.

Lord Mountbatten was a great-grandson of Queen Victoria, and his links with European royalty were reflected by the presence among the 1,400 people in the abbey of a score

MOURNING THE RAJ'S FINEST

By AMIT ROY

WHEN Lord Mountbatten went out to India in 1947 to usher in the twilight of the Raj, Kaniz was a girl of 14 in Calcutta — old enough to remember the excitement of independence.

Yesterday, sari-clad Mrs Kaniz Hamid, now 46, stood in Whitehall and pushed forward her daughters, Bosy, 22, and Tazi, 20, for a better view of the Mountbatten funeral procession so that "they can one day tell their daughters how they saw the sun finally setting on the most enlightened aspect of the Raj."

Poignant moment

Father and son had deep affection for Lord Mountbatten, not only as a special relative, but as a companion, friend and adviser, and one of the most poignant moments of the funeral service came when Prince Charles stepped up to the lectern to read the lesson.

Others at Westminster Abbey paying their last respects to Lord Mountbatten, who was to have accompanied Prince Charles on a trip to India after this year, were Mrs Vijaya Lakshmi, widow of Jawahar Lal Nehru, and sister of the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress party.

Fifty members of the Indian armed forces also took part in the funeral procession.

"This great man"

Admiral Pereira said: "It's sad that I had to come to England after 31 years for this. But Lord Mountbatten had asked for one of the Indian service chiefs to be present."



The Queen and Prince Philip standing sadly beside the catafalque during the funeral service for Earl Mountbatten in Westminster Abbey yesterday.

Royalty and commoners are united in grief as families mourn IRA massacre victims

CONTRAST IN BURIAL OF SIX SOLDIERS

By JOHN SHAW

SIX of the 18 soldiers killed on the same day as Lord Mountbatten were buried yesterday in ceremonies that contrasted with the sombre pagentry seen at Westminster Abbey.

But as relatives in churches from the West Country to Scotland mourned victims of the Warrenpoint ambush, Royalty and commoner were united in grief at family loss.

The funeral of Sgt. DRUM MAJOR IAN ROGERS, 31, at St Mary's Church, Bishopstoke, near Southampton, was at the same time as the Mountbatten service.

The church is only seven miles from where Lord Mountbatten was buried at the 12th Century Romsey Abbey, Hants. Sgt Rogers's red beret lay on top of his simple coffin in the church where he was married in 1974. A wreath from the Black-guards platoon of the 2nd Parachute Regiment carried the message: "Your tragedy is our tragedy."

Joint wreath

His sobbing wife, Muriel, and son Andrew, three, were at the service, but his other son, Martin, eight months, remained at home.

The dead soldier's parents also attended with his seven brothers and sisters, who sent a joint wreath on which a message was written: "You were the best."

During the service, the Rev. Gordon Rose said: "I know we all feel a sense of outrage, horror and anger at the stupidity of it all. We pray that the sacrifice of Ian and his comrades will bring the final settlement closer."

Silent crowds watched as the funeral procession of Lt-Col DAVID BLAIR, 40, commanding officer of the 1st Bn, Queen's Own Highlanders, emerged from the 17th Century Canon.

Silent tribute

Mr Percy Dunn, his father, who served in the Navy during the 1939-45 war, chose the



Three former Prime Ministers — Mr Macmillan, Mr Heath and Sir Harold Wilson — leaving Westminster Abbey after paying their last tribute to Lord Mountbatten. Below, left: Mrs Thatcher and her husband, Denis, who were among the congregation, and (right) Mr Lynch, the Irish Prime Minister, listening to the service.



A loving farewell in the hushed countryside

By CHARLES NEVIN

AFTER the awesome and solemn splendour of a nation's tribute, Lord Mountbatten returned yesterday afternoon to the quiet Hampshire countryside and people he so loved.

Their love ensured that the simple ceremony at Romsey Abbey was no less moving than the pomp of Westminster.

For if Westminster saw the farewell of the world, Romsey saw the farewell of friends.

Yesterday morning, bathed in bright sunshine, the town had an eerie quiet. Shops were closed as a mark of respect and there was little traffic.

Crowds began to gather along the short route from Romsey station to the abbey hours before "Lord Louis" was to return.

At the abbey, a stream of floral tributes arrived and they were carefully arranged in the graveyard opposite the north door by staff from Broadlands, Lord Mountbatten's home.

Small posies

There were about 500 tributes: from kings and queens, politicians, friends, the town, the Services. Some were large and beautifully intricate; others were small posies with handwritten cards and just first names.

At 2.45 p.m. the expectant murmurings of the crowd were replaced by silence, broken only by the abbey bells as the long cortege emerged from the town. Lord Mountbatten's coffin was draped with the Union Flag and topped by a wreath of holly and wild flowers from his family.

His family followed the coffin into the abbey and then the Queen and other members of the royal family emerged, drawn from all aspects of Lord Mountbatten's life.

He, including many from his own household, watched the Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Vicar of Romsey, Canon David Shawlock, conduct a simple 10-minute service.

From Romsey

Lord Mountbatten was buried in the south transept of the abbey. The Lord Chamberlain, Lord Maclean, scattered earth into the grave.

Outside, 12 Royal Marines from 45 Commando, Ayrroath, fired a three-volley salute. One of them, Cpl Charles Henderson, was from Romsey.

The Queen was to return to Balmoral last night. Prince Philip was to go to Wales, as was the Prince of Wales, as saying overnight at Broadlands.

Prince Charles's inscription on his father's coffin read: "To my HGF and GU from his loving and devoted HGF and GNF. The Prince was understood to have asked that there be no speculation as to the message."

Mr Eric Cooper, head gardener of Broadlands, said after the service: "It was a very simple ceremony, but as he would have liked it, especially with the sound of the valley from the outside. And the echo from the bell-towers in the abbey was fantastic. The service was very, very moving."

SILENT TRIBUTES IN IRELAND

By COLIN BRADY and PAUL POTTS

THOUSANDS of people on both sides of the Irish border, protestants and Roman Catholics, observed a period of silence or attended religious services yesterday as a mark of respect to Earl Mountbatten.

In Northern Ireland the voluntary tribute also embraced the 1932 victims of terrorists killed during ten years of conflict in the province.

Church leaders of all beliefs, the Confederation of British Industry, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, the Confederation of Irish Industry, the Federated Union of Employers and the Northern Ireland Chamber of Trade supported the expression of sympathy.

Sirens sounded

In several parts of Ulster factory hooters and sirens were sounded to mark the beginning of a two-minute silence. Office staff and workers in major industrial concerns like Harland and Wolff's giant shipyards, and in several stores and shops, stopped work as a mark of respect.

Just outside Mullaghmore, the tiny fishing village from where Lord Mountbatten sailed to his death, a group of parishioners gathered in a tiny house to celebrate Mass.

On Sligo hospital Lord Brabourne watched the proceedings on a communal television and listened to the tributes paid to his father-in-law. Earlier in the day Lady Brabourne was moved from the intensive care unit to a general ward to continue her recovery.

Only source

In circumstances like these, the Army Benevolent Fund, which has those funds to which individual regiments and corps may turn out to be the only source of aid.

The fund was formed towards the end of the Second World War, and the bulk of its activities nowadays are concerned with veterans of that war.

Large grants are paid to other Servicemen's charities like the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA), the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association, and the Star and Garter home for disabled ex-Servicemen.

But, in response to the mounting death toll among soldiers serving in Ulster, a Relief Fund was established and in the last eight years more than £725,000 has been paid out specifically to victims of terrorist violence and their relatives.

The fund relies on two main sources for its income. Much of this comes from soldiers themselves, who voluntarily contribute a day's pay each year. Apart from the soldiers, some investment income from capital, however, the fund relies heavily on members of the public to build up its resources.

Readers wishing to contribute to the fund should send their donations to The Army Benevolent Fund, X Block, Defence Headquarters, Whitehall, London SW15. Those who would like their donations to be used exclusively for Servicemen killed or wounded in Ulster should mark their envelopes "Special Northern Ireland Relief Fund."

BRABOURNE

TEAM NO HELP

Queen leads mourning

Count of Barcelona, and Prince Rad of Jordan.

Inevitably, heads in the general congregation turned to watch Princess Grace of Monaco, the epitome of cool elegance, as she accompanied her husband, Prince Rainier, into the abbey.

As the funeral procession bearing Lord Mountbatten's coffin from St James's Palace neared Parliament Square, senior members of the Royal Family walked in procession to their places beneath the abbey's great lantern roof.

The Queen was accompanied by the Queen Mother and her two youngest sons, Prince Edward and Prince Andrew, the latter in his recently-acquired Naval uniform.

By 11.50, the scene was set, and family friends and colleagues waited quietly in the abbey to begin the final sad tribute.

Outside the abbey's great west door, the cllop of horses' hooves were just audible as the gun carriage drew up. Then, with dramatic suddenness, the glittering corps of Royal Marines trumpeters and buglers sounded a soaring fanfare to signal the arrival of the coffin.

It was a magnificent beginning, full of majesty, tinged only with the regret that Lord Mountbatten could not be there to hear it. It was the sort of moment he would have cherished.

As the buglers' music sounded around the abbey, the flag-draped coffin was borne on the shoulders of eight sailors towards the altar.

Straining under the weight of their burden, the sailors moved slowly, gently, forward, their boots squeaking quietly as they went. The coffin was placed on a velvet-draped catafalque, between the Royal Family and the Mountbatten mourners. A tall amber candle flickered at each of its corners.

The first hymn, "God of our fathers, known of old . . ." was followed by the lesson, read by Prince Charles, full of nautical references that were to provide a theme for the service.

A second hymn, "I vow to thee my country . . ." prefaced what was described as a "corporate act of reflection" by the congregation while the choir sang a 16th century anthem.

During this anthem, the strain of holding a heavy standard proved too much for one elderly member of the Burma Star Association, who had to be led away by a nurse.

But such was the man's determination to fulfill his duties that he returned to his place before the end of the service to march proudly out of the abbey with his colleagues.

The only direct references to Lord Mountbatten during the service were made by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, who asked for a short silence to "recollect, with admiration and affection, Louis Mountbatten."

Offering a prayer of thanks, Dr Coggan listed the Earl's qualities:

Hume's prayer

"We remember before Thee this our brother, rendering thanks to Thee for his outstanding gifts, high enthusiasm and liberality of spirit; his integrity and flair for leadership; his life-long devotion to the Royal Navy; his courage and sense of companionship in times of war; his dedication to the cause of freedom and justice; his service to the peoples of South East Asia, and to India at acritical period in her history; his being so rare a person."

A prayer for peace was also offered by Cardinal Hume, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, who took his place in the procession of clergy carrying his scarlet biretta.

The congregation then rose again to sing one of the hymns chosen for the service by Lord Mountbatten; this time one of the most popular of English hymns which brought the guests to full, lusty voice—"Jerusalem."

The Earl's links with the sea were reflected once again by a series of prayers led by the Venerable Basil O'Farrell, Chaplain of the Fleet, including the Naval prayer and the Royal Marines prayer.

These culminated in perhaps

the most emotional moments of the service—the sounding of Last Post, followed by the Naval Reveille.

As the famous notes floated through the Abbey, it was a time to reflect on the magnitude of Lord Mountbatten's achievements—the sheer scope of his interests and activities and the energy he devoted to all of them.

Simply by looking around the crowded abbey, the evidence of his life's work was everywhere. Represented in force were, of course the men of his beloved Navy, every rank from rating to admiral.

Burma veterans

There were the veterans of the Burma campaigns, old friends from his days in India, representatives of Nato, or armies and navies around the world.

Standing around the abbey's great outer walls were detachments of the British Commonwealth ex-Services League, and the representatives of his old Naval command, Kelly.

The standard of the Royal British Legion branch in Lord Mountbatten's home town of Romsey was also on display and the Elder Brethren of Trinity House took part in the procession.

The final hymn of the ceremony was another of Lord Mountbatten's favourites, "Eternal Father, strong to save . . ." which has the memorable chorus "O hear us when we cry to Thee, for those in peril on the sea."

Two short prayers later, the choir sang "God be in my head . . ." and the funeral of Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma was over.

The procession out of the abbey was carried off without a hitch, although the close proximity of Princess Margaret proved too much for one small boy in the front row of the general congregation.

First he curtsied, then bowed, then blushed bright red in confusion.

Queen Silvia of Sweden, a tall, beautiful blonde, was the only royal mourner to show outward signs of emotion. As she left the abbey, tears streamed down her cheeks beneath a black half-veil.

Princess Grace wore a large pair of tinted spectacles as she made her exit, but in all, Earl Mountbatten would have been proud of his family's respect; of one of his firmest requests: that there be no tears at his funeral.

Other notable features of the ceremony included the presence of four former Prime Ministers—Mr Macmillan, Sir Harold Wilson, Mr Heath and Mr Callaghan.

Lord Hume had also hoped to be present, but illness prevented him from attending.

Lord Mountbatten's son-in-law, Lord Brabourne, who was seriously injured in the explosion aboard the Mountbatten boat, is also known to have wanted to attend the funeral, as did his wife and son, Timothy, who were also badly hurt.

Unfortunately, their injuries were such that none of them could be present, although it is understood that arrangements were made for them to watch televised coverage of the ceremony.

Among other mourners present were the Earl of Snowdon, sitting some way from the Royal Family, the Irish Prime Minister, Mr Lynch, and the Indian Vice-President, Mr Mohammad Hidayatullah.

After the funeral service, the coffin was carried to an Army vehicle to begin its final journey to Romsey.

As the bearer party emerged into the bright sunshine of a perfect late summer's day, the bells of the abbey church were rung, half-muffled, and after a moment's pause, the military cavalcade moved slowly away towards the river.

The funeral took place 34 years to the day after the liberation of Singapore by forces of South-East Asia Command under Admiral Mountbatten.

The re-occupation began in the early hours of Sept. 5 when troops of the 5th Indian Division, commanded by Major-General Mansergh, were disembarked.

On the 12th, at a ceremony held in the municipal buildings of Singapore, Admiral Mountbatten accepted the surrender of all the Japanese forces in South-East Asia.

Nation's Grief & Pictures—Pp 2 & 3

CROWDS WAIT

By ANN MORROW

Continued from Page One

batten's black charger—riderless with boots reversed in the stirrups.

Next came the mourners, who walked from St James's to the abbey.

Prince Philip—his mouth set tightly—marched with Prince Charles.

The Duke of Kent walked alongside the Duke of Gloucester and Prince Michael of Kent.

The Mountbatten men walked briskly in dark suits but at times it was not easy for 16-year-old Ashley Hicks, son of Lady Pamela Hicks, Lord Mountbatten's younger daughter.

Bowler hats marked the last of the procession as the veterans of the 14th Army tried with success to prove that they were not as old as they looked.

The pall bearers were from the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, the Army, R A F, Indian Army, Brumese Army, and the French and American services.

Lord Mountbatten had asked that there should be contingents from five continents. He planned every detail of his funeral.

When the procession reached Westminster Abbey the crowds broke up and old Servicemen with their medals on their blazers wandered round the sunny streets.

Only invited mourners could go to the burial service in Romsey Abbey.

Lunch on train

A special train with red roses and pink carnations on the tables waited at Waterloo to take the coffin to Romsey.

The Queen moved restlessly round the non-smoker coach in which she travelled with Prince Philip, Prince Charles, Princess Anne and Capt. Mark Phillips.

Elderly representatives of the noble houses of Europe walked a little uncertainly to the train.

A black-bordered menu offered lunch of melon, cold salmon and cheese.

At 12.46 p.m.—a little later than expected—the coffin had arrived in a convoy of six armoured cars and police motor cyclists.

It was placed on the train in the care of 61-year-old William Simpson, the guard. During the war he had served on merchant ships and once in the same convoy as Earl Mountbatten.



10 DOWNING STREET

original sent
immediate
10.15 am JFA

From the Private Secretary

6 September 1979

Dear Dr Basu,

You wrote to the Prime Minister on 30 August asking whether the Prime Minister would be prepared to send a message to be read at the memorial meeting you are holding for Lord Louis Mountbatten.

The Prime Minister has asked me to transmit to you the following message from her:

"I join with you and those gathered at the Memorial Meeting of the India League in paying homage to the memory of a great man. The reactions to Lord Mountbatten's tragic death throughout the world, and most particularly the moving response of the people of India, have been a fitting tribute to the achievements of his remarkable career. I know that in India Lord Mountbatten was regarded with especial warmth and affection, and that he had been looking forward recently to the visit to India which he had planned for later this year. I share with you a great sense of loss."

Yours sincerely

Michael Alexander

Dr. Tarapada Basu



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 September 1979

Dear Paul,

You wrote to me on 5 September enclosing the text of a message from the Prime Minister to the President of the European Commission in reply to the message of condolence about the murder of Lord Mountbatten.

Stephen Wall had sent me a draft intended to serve the same purpose under cover of his letter of 30 August. I rather hope that the message has been despatched as a result of my letter to Roderic Lyne of 3 September. An excess of zeal on your part, perhaps?

Yours ever

Michael Alexander

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

hw

FILE

VLB

6 September 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 4 September enclosing the signed original of a message of condolence from the Prime Minister, Government and people of Sri Lanka on the death of Lord Mountbatten.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

His Excellency Mr. Nanediri Wimalasena

sh

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



ORDER OF SERVICE

at the

FUNERAL

of

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET

THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN
OF BURMA

1900—1979

Wednesday

5 September 1979

11.30 a.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE
at the
FUNERAL
of
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET
THE EARL MOUNTBATTEN
OF BURMA
1900—1979

Music under the direction of Douglas Guest, C.V.O., Organist and Master of the Choristers of Westminster Abbey

Organ Music played by Christopher Herrick, Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey

The Fanfare, Last Post and Reveille played by Trumpeters and Buglers from the Royal Marines School of Music, Principal Director of Music, Lt.-Col. J. R. Mason, M.V.O., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., L.G.S.M., R.M.

The Fanfare composed by Lt.-Col. Sir Vivian Dunn, K.C.V.O., O.B.E., F.R.A.M., R.M., retd.

The Tenor Bell will be tolled for thirty-eight minutes before the Service while the Cortège makes its way to the Abbey.

ORDER OF SERVICE

As the Cortège enters the Great West Door a Fanfare of Trumpets is sounded.

At 11.30 a.m. the Procession of the Collegiate Body, preceded by Representative Clergy, moves from the West End of the Abbey while the Choir sings the following Sentences:

I AM the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I KNOW that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

WE brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord preserveth in life; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

William Croft (1678-1727)

Organist of Westminster Abbey (1708-27)

The following Hymn is then sung by all:

HYMN 558 E.H.

GOD of our fathers, known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle-line,
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine—
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies;
The captains and the kings depart:
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

Far-called, our navies melt away;
On dune and headland sinks the fire:
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

G. F. Blanchard (1868-1926)

Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

The Congregation sits and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales reads the Lesson:

PSALM CVII, vv. 23-26, 28-30

THEY that go down to the sea in ships: and occupy their business
in great waters;

These men see the works of the Lord: and his wonders in the deep.

For at his word the stormy wind ariseth: which lifteth up the waves
thereof.

They are carried up to the heaven, and down again to the deep:
their soul melteth away because of the trouble.

So when they cry unto the Lord in their trouble: he delivereth them
out of their distress.

For he maketh the storm to cease: so that the waves thereof are
still.

Then are they glad, because they are at rest: and so he bringeth
them unto the haven where they would be.

All stand to sing the following Hymn:

HYMN 579 A.&M.R.

I VOW to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

G. Holst (1874-1934)

C. Spring-Rice (1859-1918)

The Congregation sits and a corporate Act of Recollection is made while the Choir sings the Anthem:

FAIR is the heaven, where happy souls have place
In full enjoyment of felicity,
Whence they do still behold the glorious face
Of the divine eternal Majesty:
Yet far more fair be those bright Cherubins,
Which all with golden wings are overdight,
And those eternal burning Seraphins,
Which from their faces dart out fiery light;
Yet fairer than they both, and much more bright
Be th' Angels and Archangels, which attend
On God's own person, without rest or end.
These then in fair each other far excelling,
As to the Highest they approach more near,
Yet is that Highest far beyond all telling,
Fairer than all the rest which there appear,
Though all their beauties joined together were:
How then can mortal tongue hope to express
The image of such endless perfectness?

W. H. Harris (1883-1973)

Edmund Spenser (1552-1599)

All kneel for the Prayers, led by the Reverend Roger Job, Precentor and Sacrist of Westminster Abbey:

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy Kingdom come; thy will be done; in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

V. Enter not into judgment with thy servant, O Lord;

R. For in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

V. Grant unto him eternal rest;

R. And let perpetual light shine upon him.

V. We believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord;

R. In the land of the living.

V. O Lord, hear our prayer;

R. And let our cry come unto thee.

*Douglas Guest, C.V.O.,
Organist and Master of the Choristers*

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Donald Coggan, Archbishop of Canterbury, standing at the High Altar, says the Commendatory Prayer:

Let us keep silence for a space as we recollect, with admiration and affection, Louis Mountbatten.

ETERNAL God, before whose face the generations rise and pass away, thyself unchanged abiding, we bless thy holy Name for all who have completed their earthly course in thy faith and following, and are now at rest; we remember before thee this our brother, rendering thanks to thee for

his outstanding gifts, high enthusiasm and liberality of spirit;
his integrity, and flair for leadership; his life-long devotion to the Royal Navy; his courage and sense of companionship in times of war;
his dedication to the cause of freedom and justice; his service to the peoples of South East Asia, and to India at a critical period in her history;
his being so rare a person.

To him and his family, with all the faithful departed, recalling the members of those Regiments who suffered severely on the same day, grant thy peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in thy loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of thy perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Right Reverend Professor Robin Barbour, M.C., D.D., Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, says:

Let us pray for Lord Mountbatten's family.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: Deal graciously, we pray thee, with those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

His Eminence Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, prays for peace:

O GOD, who art the lover of justice and peace; Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to those who now guide the counsels of the nations; and so lead them by thy Holy Spirit, that by word and by deed they may promote thy glory, and set forward peace and goodwill among men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

The Congregation stands to sing the following Hymn:

HYMN 578 A.&M.R.

AND did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

William Blake (1757-1827)

All kneel for the following Prayers, led by the Venerable Basil O'Ferrall, C.B., Q.H.C., M.A., Chaplain of the Fleet:

The Naval Prayer

O ETERNAL Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea; who hast compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end: Be pleased to receive into thy Almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us thy servants, and the Fleet in which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our Island and Commonwealth may in peace and quietness serve thee our God; and that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to praise and glorify thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Royal Marines Prayer

O ETERNAL Lord God, who through many generations hast united and inspired the members of our Corps, grant thy blessing, we beseech thee, on Royal Marines serving all round the globe. Bestow thy crown of righteousness upon all our efforts and endeavours, and may our laurels be those of gallantry and honour, loyalty and courage. We ask this in the Name of him whose courage never failed; our Redeemer Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Life Guards Prayer

O EVERLASTING God, King of Kings, in whose service we put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for an helmet the hope of salvation, grant we beseech thee that the Life Guards may be faithful unto death and receive at last the crown of life, from Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Reverend Raymond George, M.A., B.D., Moderator of the National Free Church Federal Council, says the Prayer of Sir Francis Drake:

O LORD God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same unto the end, until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through him who for the finishing of thy work laid down his life, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

I HEARD a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord: even so saith the Spirit; for they rest from their labours.

All then stand while the Buglers sound:

LAST POST

and

REVEILLE

The following Hymn is then sung by all:

HYMN 487 A.&M.R.

ETERNAL Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at thy word,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm amid the storm didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go:
Thus evermore shall rise to thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

J. B. Dykes (1823-1876)

W. Whiting (1825-1878)

The Dean of Westminster, standing at the High Altar, says the concluding Prayer and gives the Blessing, the Congregation kneeling:

GOD save our gracious Sovereign and all the Companions, living and departed, of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, and all the Brotherhood, living and departed, of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. *Amen.*

GOD grant to the living, grace; rest to the dead; to The Queen, the Commonwealth and all mankind, peace with righteousness; to us his servants, life everlasting both now and hereafter; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The Congregation remains kneeling as the Choir sings:

GOD be in my head:
And in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes:
And in my looking;
God be in my mouth:
And in my speaking;
God be in my heart:
And in my thinking;
God be at mine end:
And at my departing.

H. Walford Davies (1869-1941)

Sarum Primer (1558)

*The Congregation stands while there is sounded from the Great Organ
The Dead March in 'Saul'.*

The Bells of the Abbey Church are now rung, half-muffled.

*At the conclusion of the Service the Processions leave the Abbey in the
same order as on entering.*

**Members of the Congregation are kindly requested to remain in
their seats until directed to move by the Ushers and Stewards.**

Printed by Barnard & Westwood Limited
9 Railway Street, London, N1 9EE



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

CF Has the
P.N. not already approved
a message to Pres. Vankar?

5 September 1979

Michael
Yes. See at flap.
SJP
6.9.

Dear Michael,

Paul 6/9

In your letter of 29 August to Stephen Wall you asked for advice on a reply to a message of condolence on the murder of Lord Mountbatten sent to the Prime Minister by the President of the European Commission. I attach a suggested draft reply in the form of a telegram to UKREP EEC.

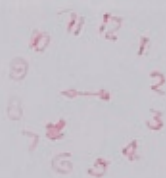
Yours OZA

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'DB Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

- 6 SEP 1979



File No.....

OUTWARD

Security Classification

Department

TELEGRAM

Precedence

Drafted by

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(Time)Z

POSTBYZ

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REPEATED TO (for info)

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Distribution:—

[TEXT]

The Prime Minister has received from the President of the European Commission the following message of condolence on the death of Lord Mountbatten:

"The Commission has heard with shock and revulsion of the terrible act which killed Lord Mountbatten. The death of a person of such historic distinction is a loss to the whole world. On my own behalf - as one who had the vivid pleasure of working with Lord Mountbatten in several fields - and on behalf of my

/..

Copies to:—

colleagues in the Commission, I send our
heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family,
to the Government and to the British people.

Roy Jenkins

President of the Commission of the European Communities"

Please convey to Mr Jenkins the following reply:

"I have conveyed to the Royal Family your kind
message of condolence on the murder of Lord
Mountbatten. In the extraordinary range of his
responsibilities throughout his life, European
questions had an important place and especially
in his period of office as Chief of Defence Staff.
We have been much moved by the deeply sympathetic
reactions to his death. On behalf of the
Government and British people I thank you and
your colleagues in the Commission for your message.
Margaret Thatcher"

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN


5 September 1979

Lord Mountbatten

You sent me, under cover of your letters of 3 and 4 September, the text of draft replies from the Prime Minister to messages of condolence from the Prime Ministers of France and Italy and from the Chairman of the European Democratic Union. The Prime Minister has approved the texts and I should be grateful if you would arrange for their delivery.

The final sentence of the message to M. Barre should read "I have arranged for your message to be laid before The Queen".

MO'DBA



Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

10. 11.
Mr. Peterson ✓

Many thanks.
CVP 5/5.

Flowers

The wreath was beautiful. A large circle of all white flowers.....carnations, roses, freesias, orchids, shaggy chrysanthemums, large ordinary chrysanthemums..... and a raised top part of white tiger lillies with pale green spots..... on a background of dark foliage.

B. 4.9.79

RESTRICTED

6162 - 1

PP KUALA LUMPUR

GRS 205

RESTRICTED

FM FCO 041000Z SEP 79

TO PRIORITY KUALA LUMPUR

TELEGRAM NUMBER 247 OF 4 SEPTEMBER 1979

SUBJECT

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 798A/79T**

hs Rmt 6/5

MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA

1. THE MALAYSIAN HIGH COMMISSION HAVE FORWARDED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER. BEGINS: I AM SHOCKED AND GRIEVED TO HEAR OF THE DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA. HE WAS WARM, FRIENDLY, CONSIDERATE AND HUMBLE WHICH MADE HIM A GREAT LEADER. THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA ESPECIALLY REMEMBER HIM FOR HIS SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY DURING AND AFTER THE LAST WAR. WE SHARE THE GRIEF AND SORROW OF THE PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE LOSS OF A TRULY MAGNIFICENT MAN. TO HIS FAMILY WE EXTEND OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES. DATUK HUSSEIN ONN, PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA.

2. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING REPLY. BEGINS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, WHICH WAS INDEED A GREAT SHOCK TO ME AND TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF GREAT BRITAIN AS WELL AS TO HIS FAMILY. THE TRIBUTES WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM HIS MANY FRIENDS ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE A CONSOLATION AND A REMINDER THAT WE DO NOT GRIEVE ALONE. I AM ARRANGING FOR YOUR MESSAGE TO BE PASSED TO HIS FAMILY. MARGARET THATCHER.

CARRINGTON

NNNN

FCO/WHITEHALL

SEAD

GRS 100
UNCLASSIFIED
FROM FCO 040915Z SEP 79
TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1133 OF 4 SEPT.

fs
Ant 4/5

T86/79T

MIPT: DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE:

"DEAR MRS THATCHER:

IT IS WITH A PROFOUND SADNESS THAT ROSALYN AND I LEARNED OF THE TRAGIC DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN. HE WAS AN EXTRAORDINARILY WISE AND COURAGEOUS STATESMAN AND SOLDIER. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REMEMBER ESPECIALLY HIS GREAT SERVICE TO OUR COMMON CAUSE DURING WORLD WAR II. WE SHARE YOUR GREAT SENSE OF LOSS.

SINCERELY

JIMMY CARTER."

CARRINGTON

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FM F C O 040915Z SEP 79

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1132 OF 4 SEPTEMBER

INFO DUBLIN AND NIO BELFAST.

h3
MWA 9/5

T98/79T

DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

1. M I F T CONTAINS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER DELIVERED VIA THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HERE, CONVEYING HIS CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR THE FOLLOWING REPLY TO BE DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

QUOTE DEAR MR PRESIDENT

I WAS GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTER OF 28 AUGUST CONVEYING THE CONDOLENCES OF YOURSELF AND MRS CARTER ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA. I SHALL PASS ON YOUR MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY. NOTHING CAN EVER JUSTIFY SUCH A BRUTAL AND SENSELESS MURDER. MAY I ALSO SAY THAT I WELCOME THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON 28 AUGUST, REAFFIRMING YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONDEMNATION OF ALL THOSE WHO SEEK TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS IN NORTHERN IRELAND THROUGH VIOLENCE, AND URGING ALL AMERICANS TO REFRAIN FROM SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN VIOLENCE.

YOURS SINCERELY

MARGARET THATCHER UNQUOTE

2. SEE M I F T.

CARRINGTON

FCO/WHITEHALL DISTN.

N AM D

RID

GRS 110

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM FCO 040915Z SEP 79

TO IMMEDIATE PRETORIA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 305 OF 4 SEPT

INFO PRIORITY JOHANNESBURG, CAPE TOWN, DURBAN.

fs Amb

T890/79T

See original

28/8

MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA.

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN
PRIME MINISTER IN RESPONSE TO HIS TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGE OF 28
AUGUST TO MRS THATCHER:

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA FOLLOWING THE MURDER OF
EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA. THIS IS NOT ONLY A NATIONAL TRAGEDY,
BUT A CRIME WHICH HAS STUNNED MEN AND WOMEN THE WORLD OVER.

CARRINGTON

FCO/WHITEHALL DISTN.

S AF D

P & CD

RID



(1)

10 DOWNING STREET

Bonnie Minister.

Death of Earl Mountbatten.

I attach two further acknowledgments from you for messages of sympathy on the death of Lord Mountbatten. There are a number still to come: would you be kind for me to finalise the texts - for the most part they are routine - without troubling you further?

Yours truly
Rmt - 4/5



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

4 September 1979

Dear Michael,

Lord Mountbatten: Message of Condolence from
the Italian Prime Minister

/ Signor Cossiga sent a message of condolence to the Prime Minister about the murder of Lord Mountbatten and a number of British soldiers, via the Italian Embassy. You acknowledged the Italian Charge d'Affaires's letter in your letter of 31 August (copies attached for ease of reference).

/ I now attach a draft telegram containing a possible reply to Signor Cossiga.

Yours etc

Paul

(P Lever)

Private Secretary

M O'DB Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

File No.

Department

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OUTWARD

TELEGRAM

Security Classification

RESTRICTED

Precedence

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AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info)

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:—

[TEXT]

The Prime Minister has received

1. *the* the following message has been received
from the Italian Prime Minister:

2. Quote. I have been deeply shocked by the
violent events which have stricken Great Britain,
causing the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten,
such an eminent statesman and soldier, and the
loss of so many young lives.

With sadness and dismay I wish to express,
in the name of the Italian Government and personally,
the most heartfelt condolences together with our
feelings of sympathy in the grief of Her Majesty

/The

Copies to:—

RESTRICTED

The Queen and of Great Britain. Unquote.

SUBJECT

3. Please convey the following reply to Signor Cossiga from the Prime Minister:

4. Quote. Thank you very much for your message of condolence about the tragic events of last week which led to the deaths of Lord Mountbatten and of so many young soldiers. Your message was much appreciated. Unquote.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T98⁰/79

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

RESTRICTED



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

31 August 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 28 August to Mr. Cartledge, whom I have now succeeded, with which you enclosed a message to the Prime Minister from Signor Cossiga conveying his condolences at the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten.

I have of course brought Signor Cossiga's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Signor Ludovico Incisa di Camerana

T89A/79T

ROUGH TRANSLATION

cc. FCO

Italian Embassy.
11, Three Kings Yard.
London, W.1.

Prime Minister *Phm*

MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE RT. HON MARGARET THATCHER, M.P.
BY THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER
=====

I have been deeply shocked by the violent events which have stricken Great Britain, causing the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten, such an eminent statesman and soldier, and the loss of so many young lives.

With sadness and dismay, I wish to express, in the name of the Italian Government and personally, the most heartfelt condolences together with our feelings of sympathy in the grief of Her Majesty The Queen and of Great Britain.

Francesco Cossiga

Mr. Vecken
Mr. Nark - for
draft pre

3/9

for draft of AT
to read minutes of 4/9/79

at
Mr. Bullock
Red
from
20/11



SEP 4 1979

From the High Commissioner



High Commission of the Democratic
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
13, Hyde Park Gardens,
London W2 2LU

4th September, 1979.

My dear Prime Minister.

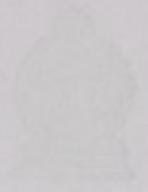
L.A.
Amul
29.8.79 J/S

I have the honour to forward a message of condolence from the Hon'ble R. Premadasa, Prime Minister, the Government and the people of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, on the great loss your country and all of us have suffered on the death of late Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

Yours sincerely
N. Wimalasena

N. Wimalasena.

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister of Britain.





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 September 1979

Dear Michael,

Lord Mountbatten:

Message of Condolence from the French Prime Minister

You sent us a copy of your letter of 29 August to the French Charge d'Affaires acknowledging his letter of 28 August, covering a message of condolence on the death of Lord Mountbatten, from M Barre to the Prime Minister. I attach a draft reply from the Prime Minister in case she wishes to send a personal acknowledgement.

Yours etc

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'DB Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

13 SEP 1979



Registry
No.

DRAFT Letter

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret,
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:- The Prime Minister of France

From

Prime Minister

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. *1000000000*

..... In Confidence

I greatly appreciate your message about the death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma and I thank you for your sympathy and that of the French Government. I ^{have} ~~shall~~ arranged for your message to be laid before The Queen.

12 SEP 1979



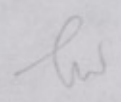
3 September 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter to the Prime Minister of 29 August about the death of Earl Mountbatten.

Your Government's message has, of course, been brought to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

Mo'DBA

His Excellency
Senor Dr. Carlos M. Gutierrez-Canas




3 September 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter to the Prime Minister of 29 August enclosing a message to her from the Prime Minister of Nepal.

Your Prime Minister's message has, of course, been brought to Mrs. Thatcher's immediate attention.

MO'DBA

His Excellency
Mr. Jharendra Narayan Singha, C.V.O.



3 September 1979

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 30 August, with the text of the Chancellor of the Duchy's cable from Mauritius. She much appreciated his message.

MAP

Miss C.M. Egerton,
Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of
Lancaster

VUB

B/F 7.9.79

3 September 1979

Death of Earl Mountbatten

I enclose copies of two further messages received by the Prime Minister about the death of Earl Mountbatten, one from the Prime Minister of Nepal and the other from the Government of Costa Rica.

I should be grateful for draft replies which the Prime Minister might send.

MO'DBA

NEPAL
+ COSTA RICA

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

MR JAMES

Lord Mountbatten's Funeral

Two points:-


Wreaths of flowers are being sent to Romsey Abbey, and you may like to know that the Prime Minister is sending a wreath of white flowers, with this inscription:-

With admiration and affection,
and in proud memory of a great
servant of his country in peace
and in war from Her Majesty's
Ministers.

I imagine that we would be reticent about "pushing" this in any way, but there might be enquiries.

The Prime Minister and a number of senior Ministers are, of course, attending. One notable absentee will be the Lord Chancellor. Lord Hailsham will in fact be in Northern Ireland on the morning of 5 September, to swear in a new Northern Ireland judge (the first time a Lord Chancellor has been to Northern Ireland for this purpose). Lord Hailsham felt that this was a commitment which he should, in the circumstances, carry out; and his office are indeed anxious that it should get publicity if possible.

The coverage of the funeral will be so thorough that I do not know if there will be comment on those who do not attend; but the Lord Chancellor will be a rather surprising absentee, and if you can manage to get the facts across in some way at the right time I am sure his office would be very grateful.

 PETERSON

3 September 1979

MISS STEPHENSc.c. Mr. Alexander
Mr. Peterson ✓Visit of the Indian Vice-President

Group Captain Slessor of the Lord Chamberlain's Office telephoned me on Saturday to say that he had had a call from Mr. Bhandari of the Indian High Commission asking whether the Prime Minister would be willing to receive the Indian Vice-President when he comes to Lord Mountbatten's funeral. He said that the Vice-President would be arriving on Tuesday night.

I said that it seemed unlikely, but would look into the possibility on Monday. I tried to telephone Mr. Bhandari, but his telephone was out of order.

Can I leave it to you, in consultation with Mr. Alexander, to deal with this?

T. P. LANKESTER

3 September, 1979.

MR WHITMORE

Lord Mountbatten

Possible action by Parliament

We mentioned this today, and I attach the file dealing with the death of the Duke of Windsor. On that occasion the Prime Minister moved a Motion in the House for a Humble Address of sympathy to The Queen.

As far as I can discover (and I have spoken to Martin Vile) there was no contingency intention for similar action in Parliament in the case of Lord Mountbatten if he had died normally. But that is not the case; and you may think that this needs to be considered.

Martin Vile suggests that the first step would be to establish what the Government felt, and then to discuss a proposal with the Opposition and the House authorities. I imagine that nobody would want to move very far without finding out if, in the circumstances, the Palace would wish to receive a formal message from Parliament.

Martin Vile suggests that you might like to ask John Stevens to take the lead in pursuing this. I imagine that it might be better to follow things up after the funeral rather than before, although I suppose the press might at any time ask whether Parliament would be paying tribute to Lord Mountbatten.

3 September 1979

Mr. Peterson

David Steele's office telephoned. They do not require the fourth ticket for the funeral service.

B. 3.9.79

Returned to Lord Chamberlain's
office 4/9/79

The Pope and Lord Mountbatten's Funeral

Norman St, John Stevas' Office telephoned to say that they had received a communication from their Minister from Mauritius to the effect that His Holiness would definitely not accept an invitation to attend.

J.D.D. 31.8.79



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 September 1979

Dear Michael,

Lord Mountbatten:

Message of Condolence from the Chairman of the EDU

/ You asked for advice on a reply from the Prime Minister to the attached telegram of sympathy on the death of Earl Mountbatten from the Chairman of the European Democrat Union.

The following might be an appropriate form of words:

"I much appreciated the message of sympathy which you were kind enough to send following the deaths of Earl Mountbatten and of the other victims of the acts of terrorism on 27 August. I was also grateful for your expression of support for the efforts of the British Government to combat terrorism."

Yours etc

Paul

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

M O'DB Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1



SEP 1979

Correspondence section

FW for advice on reply

74665 VPPARL A
8814563CONPAR G

THE RT. HON. MRS. MARGARET THATCHER MP.
PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY
LONDON
SMITH SQUARE 32

DEAR MRS. THATCHER,

THE DEPLORING EVENTS OF TERRORISM IN YOUR COUNTRY WHEREBY THE
EARL OF MOUNTBATTEN AND 22 OTHER INNOCENT CITIZENS WERE MURDERED
HAVE DEEPLY SHOCKED US. WE WANT TO EXPRESS OUR FEELINGS OF
SYMPATHY WITH YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT IN THESE DIFFICULT DAYS.
WE KNOW HOW INTRICATE IT IS TO COMBAT THESE EXTREMELY CRUEL
FORMS OF TERRORISM AND WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT ALL THE SKILL
AND SUCCESS IT NEEDS FOR THIS IMPORTANT TASK. AS CHAIRMAN OF
THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRAT UNION I WANT TO SAY THAT WE SHALL DO
OUR BEST BY MEANS OF OUR SUB COMMITTEE ON THE PROBLEMS OF
TERRORISM TO GIVE YOU ANY ASSISTANCE IN THIS OUR UNION CAN
PROVIDE FOR.

DR. ALDIS MOCK
CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRAT UNION
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE AUSTRIAN PEOPLES PARTY

74665 VPPARL A
8814563CONPAR GT



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 September, 1979.

Death of Lord Mountbatten: Replies
to Messages to the Prime Minister

The Prime Minister has seen the suggested draft replies enclosed with your letter to me of 31 August (about President Carter's message) and with Stephen Wall's letter to me of 30 August (about a number of Heads of Government). The Prime Minister agrees that all these messages can now issue.

You may think that the text at (a) of Stephen Wall's letter to me would also serve as a reply to President Marcos of the Philippines whose message came in at much the same time as the others.

I have written to Ed Streater at the American Embassy enclosing the message to President Carter.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

R.M.J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Handwritten initials

MR WHITMORE

Lord Mountbatten

Possible action by Parliament

We mentioned this today, and I attach the file dealing with the death of the Duke of Windsor. On that occasion the Prime Minister moved a Motion in the House for a Humble Address of sympathy to The Queen.

As far as I can discover (and I have spoken to Martin Vile) there was no contingency intention for similar action in Parliament in the case of Lord Mountbatten if he had died normally. But that is not the case; and you may think that this needs to be considered.

Martin Vile suggests that the first step would be to establish what the Government felt, and then to discuss a proposal with the Opposition and the House authorities. I imagine that nobody would want to move very far without finding out if, in the circumstances, the Palace would wish to receive a formal message from Parliament.

Martin Vile suggests that you might like to ask John Stevens to take the lead in pursuing this. I imagine that it might be better to follow things up after the funeral rather than before, although I suppose the press might at any time ask whether Parliament would be paying tribute to Lord Mountbatten.

CVP

~~Mr Peterson~~

CVP. 17/9.

Thank you.

I have discussed this with the Prime Minister who does not think that a Humble Address is appropriate in Lord Mountbatten's case because :-

- (i) he was not strictly a member of the Royal Family;
- (ii) several weeks will have elapsed between his death and the earliest moment a motion could be moved.

3 September 1979

AWH

14/9



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 September, 1979.

I have been asked to thank you for your letter of 28 August to the Prime Minister, with which you enclosed a message from President Carter conveying his condolences on the death of Lord Mountbatten. I enclose for your information the text of a reply which is being sent via the British Embassy at Washington DC.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

The Honourable Edward J. Streator



LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	INITIAL RELEVANT BOX
PIECE/ITEM <i>13</i> [ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY]	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER A FOI EXEMPTION <i>Letter from</i> <i>Stephens to Colborne dated 3 Sept. 1979</i>	<i>CMW</i>
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	
MISSING ON TRANSFER	
MISSING	
NUMBER NOT USED	
DATE <i>4 September 2009</i>	
SIGNED <i>Wayland</i>	

Instructions for completion of dummy card

Use the card for one piece/item number only

Use black crayon to complete the card

Enter the lettercode, series and piece/item references clearly (eg

LETTERCODE/SERIES	GAB 168
PIECE/ITEM	49
ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY	

Enter initials in the box adjacent to the description that applies to the document being replaced by the dummy card.

If the document is closed under a FOI exemption, enter the number of years closed. See the TNA guidance *Preparation of records for transfer to The National Archives*, section 18.2

The box described as "Missing" is for TNA use only (it will apply to a document that is not in its proper place after it has been transferred to TNA)

Sign and date the card.



LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	INITIAL RELEVANT BOX
PIECE/ITEM <i>13</i> [ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY]	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS	
UNDER A FOI EXEMPTION <i>Letter from Prime Minister dated 2 September 1979</i>	<i>AW</i>
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	
MISSING ON TRANSFER	
MISSING	
NUMBER NOT USED	
DATE <i>14 September 2009</i>	
SIGNED <i>AWayland</i>	

Instructions for completion of dummy card

Use the card for one piece/item number only

Use black crayon to complete the card

Enter the lettercode, series and piece/item references clearly (eg

LETTERCODE/SERIES	GAB 168
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(ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY)	

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Sign and date the card.

SUBJECT

T98/79T

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T98/79T

TEXT OF MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Mr. President,

I was grateful to receive your letter of 28 August conveying the condolences of yourself and Mrs. Carter on the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. I shall pass on your message of sympathy to his family. Nothing can ever justify such a brutal and senseless murder. In this connection I welcome also the statement made by the State Department spokesman on 28 August, reaffirming the condemnation of your government of all those in Northern Ireland who seek to achieve their goals through violence, and urging all Americans to refrain from supporting organisations involved in violence.

Yours sincerely,
MARGARET THATCHER

SUBJECT

DWF G 069/01

LQO NR 725/01

00 FCO (D/B 011500Z)

GRS 100

UNCLASSIFIED

DESKBY 011500Z

FROM LAGOS 011200Z SEP 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 678 OF 01 SEPTEMBER

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE**
SERIAL No. 196/191

Hd Pr + CD

HA WAD

PS/News

RC

PS/Buckingham Palace

~~PS~~/No 10 Downing St

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

Ant

LORD MOUNTBATTEN

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE, DATED 31 AUGUST, TO
THE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ELECT OF NIGERIA,
ALHAJI SHEHU SHAGARI:-

YOUR EXCELLENCY,
I HAVE RECEIVED THE VERY SAD AND TRAGIC NEWS OF THE
BRUTAL MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN WITH THE GREATEST SHOCK.

THE CRUEL MURDER OF A MAN THAT WAS SO DEVOTED TO THE
SERVICE OF HIS NATION MUST BE CONDEMNED BY ALL CIVILISED
NATIONS. LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S DEATH IS A LOSS NOT
ONLY TO GREAT BRITAIN BUT TO THE ENTIRE CIVILISED WORLD.

I SEND MY CONDOLENCE TO YOURSELF, THE FAMILY OF LATE LORD
MOUNTBATTEN AND THE PEOPLE OF UNITED KINGDOM IN GENERAL.

YOURS SINCERELY,

ALHAJI SHEHU SHAGARI

BROWN

PRIME MINISTER

Wreath for Lord Mountbatten

We have ordered a wreath, to be all in white flowers and of the highest quality.

Caroline Stephens and I have discussed the wording, and suggest this:-

With admiration and affection,
and in proud memory of
a great servant of his country
in peace and in war
from
Her Majesty's Ministers

If you are content with this, and with the card attached, you may wish to sign it.

Thankyou - it is
just right.

CVP

Have signed
M. T.

31 August 1979



10 DOWNING STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

With admiration and affection,
and in proud memory of
a great servant of his country
in peace and in war
from

Her Majesty's Ministers

Margaret Thatcher

Copy in Appls. Section, together
with papers about payment
for the wreath.

NBPM.

✓ corr. 31/9.

Lord Mountbatten's Funeral

Mr. Pullen telephoned to let us know that the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Right Reverend William Craig and his wife and the Primate of Ireland, the Archbishop of Armagh and his wife will be coming to the Service. He is waiting to hear about Cardinal O'Fiaich and will let us know.

Mr. Pullen thought the Prime Minister would be interested to know (and hinted that she might like to entertain them to lunch afterwards)

B.

31.8.79

WEDNESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 1979
FUNERAL SERVICE FOR EARL MOUNTBATTEN AT

11.30 am

Allotment of tickets for House of Commons - 20 places

GOVERNMENT

Rt Hon Michael Jopling
(Govt Chief Whip)

Rt Hon Edward du Cann
(Chairman 1922 Committee)

Sir Paul Bryan

John Stradling Thomas

Hon Anthony Berry

Spencer le Marchant

David Price (Member for Eastleigh)

Anthony Buck (Chairman Conservative
Defence Committee)

Winston Churchill (Dep Chairman Def. Cttee
and on behalf of Churchill family)

Keith Speed (U/S for Defence NAVY
MP for Brabourne family)

Carol Mather (Defence Whip)

Sir Bernard Braine

? John Biggs-Davison

Bernard Weatherill

OPPOSITION

Rt Hon Michael Cocks (Oppsn Chief Whip)

Rt Hon Walter Harrison (Deputy Chief
ex Treasurer of Household)

Rt Hon Fred Willey

Rt Hon William Rodgers

Rt Hon Brynmor John

Allotment of 6 tickets to
Leader of the Opposition

(LC knows)

Rt Hon James Callaghan

Rt Hon Denis Healey

Rt Hon Roy Mason

Rt Hon Fred Mulley

Rt Hon Merlyn Rees

Rt Hon David Owen

Allotment of 8 for Liberals and Others

Rt Hon David Steel

Stephen Ross

Lord Byers

Rt Hon J Grimond ?

Mr J Molyneaux UUU

Mr Gerry Fitt (Belfast West)

J McQuade (Belfast North)
(rep. Rev Ian Paisley)

CHIEF
WHIP.

GR 200

UNCLASSIFIED

FM BIS NEW YORK 312122Z AUG 79

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 30 OF 31 AUGUST

INFO WASHINGTON, DUBLIN, NIO BELFAST.

NORTHERN IRELAND: GOVERNOR CAREY

GOVERNOR CAREY IS NOW REPORTED AS HAVING PUBLICLY CONDEMNED THE
MURDER OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

2. THE NEW YORK POST OF 30 AUGUST CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING SHORT
ITEM:

QUOTE GOVERNOR CAREY, WHO'S BEEN OUTSPOKEN ON THE SITUATION IN
NORTHERN IRELAND, YESTERDAY CALLED THE KILLING OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN
A "DETESTABLE ACT OF COWARDICE." HE CALLED THE ASSASSINATION "A
VICIOUS AND BRUTAL ASSAULT ON THE FOUNDATION OF HUMAN DECENCY."
UNQUOTE.

3. IN ADDITION THE GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT CALLED HERE TO
INSCRIBE THE FOLLOWING IN OUR BOOK OF CONDOLENCES:

QUOTE "MY DEEP SYMPATHY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE
FAMILY OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA ON THE TRAGIC AND OUTRAGEOUS
LOSS OF A SPLENDID AND BELOVED MAN" GOVERNOR HUGH L CAREY (BY

SABELLE LEEDS, SPECIAL ASSISTANT). UNQUOTE.

THIS FORMULATION IS EVIDENTLY INTENDED TO INDICATE THAT THE MESSAGE
IS THE GOVERNOR'S OWN WORDS.

HALL

FILES.

RID.

PCD

NAMD

NEWS'D

PS

PS/LPS

PS/MR RIDLEY

PS/PUS

COPIES TO

PS BUCKINGHAM PALACE

[COPIES SENT TO PS NO 10 DOWNING ST]

GRS 100

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON 312102Z AUG 79

TO ROUTINE FCO

TEL NO 2510 OF 31 AUGUST 1979.

INFO NIO LONDON, NIO BELFAST, DUBLIN, BIS NEW YORK.

SAVING INFO CG BOSTON

Prime Minister

(2)

Ants 3/5

me

WASHINGTON TELNO 2449: ASSASSINATION OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

1. WE HAVE ASCERTAINED THAT SENATOR KENNEDY ISSUED A STATEMENT ON 29 AUGUST. AFTER EXPRESSING KENNEDY'S DEEP SHOCK AT THE ASSASSINATIONS, THE STATEMENT WENT ON TO SAY THAT NO INTEREST OR CAUSE WAS SERVED BY THE CONTINUATION OF THESE SENSELESS ACTS OF VIOLENCE; ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN PEACE SHOULD RE-DOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO SEEK A SETTLEMENT.

2. AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE THE STATEMENT WAS NOT PICKED UP IN THE WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK PRESS.

HENDERSON

FILES

PCD

RID

NAMD

OID

NEWS D

CABINET OFFICE

COPIES TO

PS/BUCKINGHAM PALACE

[COPIES SENT
NIO DOWNING ST]



(1)

10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

Murder of Lord
Mountbatten

You have received a large number of messages of sympathy and condolence on the murder of Lord Mountbatten. You have seen the texts of those delivered to us by Embassies here in London but I have not bothered you with those that have come in in telegraphic form.

You may now like to see the drafts of the replies which, it is proposed, should be sent in your name. You may, in particular, wish to look at the line it is proposed to take with the President of the United States.

Are you content with it?

Yes *ant*

Ant

31 August 1979

RESTRICTED



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 August 1979

Dear Michael,

Death of Lord Mountbatten: President
Carter's Message

/ I enclose a suggested draft reply from the Prime Minister to President Carter's message of condolence of 28 August. Like you, we have been struck by the lack of reference in the message to the circumstances of Lord Mountbatten's death: no mention of murder or terrorism, no condemnation. The State Department spokesman has however now issued (on 28 August) a statement condemning all perpetrators of acts of violence in Northern Ireland and urging Americans not to support them. We suggest that the Prime Minister should include a reference in her message welcoming this statement. This might serve to show that we have noted the deficiency in the President's form of words.

/ We suggest that the Prime Minister's reply should be conveyed by our Embassy at Washington. If you agree, we will despatch the enclosed telegrams. It would also be appropriate to inform the American Charge: I enclose a suggested draft reply to his letter.

I take it you will inform the family of this exchange.

yours ever

Roderic Lyne

R M J Lyne
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street

RESTRICTED

File No.

Department NAD

OUTWARD

Drafted by
(Block Capitals) J P Millington

TELEGRAM

Tel. Extn. 5054

Security Classification
UNCLASSIFIEDPrecedence
IMMEDIATE

DESKBY Z

FOR
COMMS. DEPT.
USE

Despatched

(Date)

(Time) Z

POSTBY Z

PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) Z (G.M.T.)

(Restrictive Prefix)

(Security Class.) UNCLASSIFIED

(Caveat/
Privacy marking)

(Codeword)

(Deskby) Z

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
(precedence) (post)

Tel. No. of

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info) DUBLIN NIO Belfast

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:—

FCO/Whitehall

[TEXT]

DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. MIFT contains the text of a message from President Carter to the Prime Minister delivered via the American Embassy here, conveying his condolences on the death of Lord Mountbatten. Please arrange for the following reply to be delivered to the President as soon as possible:

"Dear Mr President

I was grateful to receive your letter of 28 August conveying the condolences of yourself and Mrs Carter on the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. I shall pass on your message of sympathy to his family. Nothing can ever justify such a brutal and senseless murder. May I also say that I welcome the State Department's statement

Copies to:—

on 28 August, reaffirming your Government's condemnation
of all those who seek to achieve their goals in Northern
Ireland through violence, and urging all Americans
to refrain from supporting organisations involved
in violence.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher"

2. See MIFT

MT.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

File No.
 Department NAD
 Drafted by
 (Block Capitals) J P MILLINGTON
 Tel. Extn 5054

OUTWARD

TELEGRAM

Security Classification
 UNCLASSIFIED

Precedence
 IMMEDIATE

DESKBY Z

FOR
 COMMS. DEPT.
 USE

Despatched

(Date)

(Time) Z

POSTBY Z

PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) Z(G.M.T.)

(Restrictive Prefix)

(Security Class.) UNCLASSIFIED

(Caveat/
Privacy Marking)

(Codeword)

(Deskby)

To IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
 (precedence) (post)

Tel. No. of

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info)

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:-

FCO/WHITEHALL

(TEXT)

MIPT: DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. Following is the text of President Carter's
 message:

"Dear Mrs Thatcher:

It is with a profound sadness that Rosalyn and I learned
 of the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten. He was an
 extraordinarily wise and courageous statesman and
 soldier. The American people remember especially
 his great service to our common cause during World
 War II. We share your great sense of loss.

Sincerely

Jimmy Carter."

Copies to:-

Registry
No.

DRAFT letter

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
~~Restricted.~~
Unclassified.

To:-

The Honourable Edward J Streator
Chargé d'Affaires a i
American Embassy
Grosvenor Square
London W1A 1AE

From

PS/No 10

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

In Confidence

I have been asked to thank you for your letter of 28 August to the Prime Minister, with which you enclosed a message from President Carter conveying his condolences on the death of Lord Mountbatten. I enclose for *your* information the text of a reply which is being sent via the British Embassy at Washington DC.

Enclosure

Dear Mr President

I was grateful to receive your letter of 28 August conveying the condolences of yourself and Mrs Carter on the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. I shall pass on your message of sympathy to his family. Nothing can ever justify such a brutal and senseless murder. In this connection I welcome also the statement made by the State Department spokesman on 28 August, reaffirming the condemnation of your government of all those in Northern Ireland who seek to achieve their goals through violence, and urging all Americans to refrain from supporting organisations involved in violence.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

After
ant.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 August 1979

Dear Michael,

Approved

Print 3/9

Murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma

/ I enclose a message of condolence addressed to the
/ Prime Minister by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, and a
draft reply, in a form which can be telegraphed to Kuala
Lumpur by the FCO.

Yours ever,
Stephen

(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON

SUBJECT

T898/79T



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T898/79T

CT: 71/79

The Malaysian High Commission presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and has the honour to transmit herewith the text of a condolence message from The Honourable Datuk Hussein bin Onn to the Right Honourable Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister :-

" I am shocked and grieved to hear of the death of Earl Mounbattan of Burma. He was warm, friendly, considerate and humble which made him a great leader. The Government and people of Malaysia especially remember him for his selfless service to the country during and after the last war. We share the grief and sorrow of the people of Great Britain and the loss of a truly magnificent man. To his family we extend our sincere condolences.

Datuk Hussein Onn,
Prime Minister of Malaysia "

28th August 1979
LONDON



Deaths

31 August 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 30 August to Mr. Cztledge, whom I have succeeded, with which you enclosed a message to the Prime Minister from Mr. Premadasa conveying his sympathy at the death of Earl Mountbatten.

I have of course brought Mr. Premadasa's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

MA

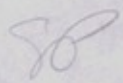
His Excellency Mr. Nanediri Wimalasena

31 August 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 28 August to Mr. Cartledge, whom I have now succeeded, with which you enclosed a message to the Prime Minister from Signor Cossiga conveying his condolences at the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten.

I have of course brought Signor Cossiga's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

M.A.



Signor Ludovico Incisa di Camerana

30 August 1979

I enclose a copy of a letter to the Lord Chamberlain's Office about the seating for next week's funeral service.

You may wish to know that the Prime Minister has decided to send a Wreath (to Romsey Abbey) on behalf of the Government.

C. V. PETERSON

M J Vile Esq



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Secretary for Appointments

30 August 1979

Dear Johnnie,

I am writing to confirm our talks so far about seating for 5 September.

(i) The Lord Chancellor is unable to attend, and Lord Soames as Lord President will be in his place. He will be accompanied by Lady Soames.

I expect that you will be in touch direct with the Speaker, but I understand that he plans to attend.

(ii) The list of Cabinet Ministers (in order of seniority) expected to attend is as follows:-

Prime Minister and Mr Thatcher
Home Secretary and Mrs Whitelaw
Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and Lady Carrington
Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Howe
Secretary of State for Industry
Secretary of State for Defence and Mrs Pym
Secretary of State for Scotland and Mrs Younger
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Mrs Atkins
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

(16 Seats)

(iii) I will let you know if there are any changes to this list, and will let you know as soon as possible the names of the leading members of the other political parties who will be using the balance of (14) seats within the allocation of 30 which you kindly agreed. But I can say now that one of these seats will be occupied by Mr James Molyneux MP (ticket to be sent, please, to the House of Commons).

(iv) We had a word about seating former Prime Ministers, and I have contacted them all. Mr Macmillan plans to attend (ticket, please, to 4 Little Essex Street, WC2). Lord Home is laid low with a bad back and slipped disc, will not be able to attend. Sir Harold Wilson is on holiday, back at the end of this week. I expect that he will want tickets for himself and Lady Wilson. Mr Heath plans to attend.

To sum up, it looks as if 4 seats will be needed for former Prime Ministers. I imagine that you will be seating Mr Callaghan, as Leader of the Opposition, with the seats covered by (iii) above.

(v) A number of those mentioned above will be accompanied by their private detectives. I expect this will be true of others attending the Service, and I wonder what your plan for this will be (find a place, probably standing, quietly somewhere?).

(vi) We had a word about Lord Attlee, and I have asked for him to have a seat in the House of Lords allocation.

If you want any help from the Government over ushers no doubt you will let us know.

*Yours sincerely,
Crispin Brown*

Lieutenant-Colonel John F D Johnston CVO MC

P.S. I have just had a message that Sir Harold Wilson and Lady Wilson will definitely be attending.



Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

PRIME MINISTER

~~15~~ 2.

MAP 30/8/79

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

30 August 1979

Dear Mike,

The Chancellor of the Duchy has cabled from Mauritius and asked me to forward the following message to the Prime Minister:

"Margaret

The terrible news reached me here shortly after my arrival. I have sent messages of sympathy to The Queen and other members of the Royal Family and am making arrangements to cut short my holiday and return to London for the funeral.

I know how much you will feel this tragedy and it will reopen wounds scarcely healed.

With regards as always
Norman"

ms.

Yours sincerely
Charlotte Egerton

C M EGERTON
Private Secretary

Mike Pattison Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
SW1

NAVY JOURNAL OFFICE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2JH

30 AUG 1979





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

30 August 1979

Dear Michael,

Murder of Lord Mountbatten

Thank you for your letter of 29 August. I enclose:

- / (a) a draft which we think would serve for the Prime Ministers of Denmark, Mauritius and Norway and for the Apostolic Delegate;
- / (b) a draft reply to Mr Roy Jenkins;
- / (c) a draft reply to the South African Prime Minister.

We think it would be appropriate if the Prime Minister replied herself in each case.

I am writing separately about the London Representative of the "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus".

If you agree, we will telegraph the Prime Minister's messages to the posts concerned.

Yours ever,
Stephen

(J S Wall)
Private Secretary

M O'DB Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

Registry
No.

DRAFT

~~XXXXXXXX~~ Message

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret,
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:- Prime Ministers of:
Denmark
Mauritius
Norway
and Apostolic Delegate
Philippines

From
Prime Minister

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

I much appreciated your message of condolence
over the horrifying murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

The Government will spare no effort in its fight
against terrorism and in endeavouring to bring to
justice those responsible for such outrages.

MT.

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR ROY JENKINS,
PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

I have conveyed to the Royal Family your kind message of
condolence on the murder of Lord Mountbatten. In the
extraordinary range of his responsibilities throughout his
life, European questions had an important place and
especially in his period of office as Chief of Defence Staff.
We have been much moved by the deeply sympathetic reactions
to his death. On behalf of the Government and British
people I thank you and your colleagues in the Commission for
your message.

MS

Registry
No.

DRAFT Message

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret,
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Unclassified.

To:— South African Prime Minister

From

Prime Minister

Telephone No. Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

..... In Confidence

Thank you for your message of condolence on behalf of the Government and people of South Africa following the murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. This is not only a national tragedy, but a crime which has stunned men and women the world over.

The Government will spare no effort in its fight against terrorism and in endeavouring to bring to justice those responsible for such outrages.

File No.

Department SEAD

Drafted by

(Block Capitals) J J BEALETel. Extn. 233 4670

OUTWARD

TELEGRAM

Security Classification

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ RESTRICTED

Precedence

PRIORITY

DESKBYZ

FOR
COMMS. DEPT.
USEDespatched (Date)
(Time)Z

POSTBYZ

PREAMBLE

(Time of Origin) Z (G.M.T.)

(Restrictive Prefix)

(Security Class.) ~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ RESTRICTED

(Caveat)

Privacy marking)

(Codeword)

(Deskby) Z

TO PRIORITY KUALA LUMPUR
(precedence) (post)

Tel. No. of

AND TO (precedence/post)

AND SAVING TO

REPEATED TO (for info)

SAVING TO (for info)

Distribution:-

~~Files~~~~SEAD~~~~P & CD~~~~CCD~~~~PS~~~~ES/Mr Blaker~~~~Mr Murray~~F/WK
SEA

Copies to:-

~~1 to 10 Downing Street~~

[TEXT]

MURDER OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA

1. The Malaysian High Commission have forwarded the following message to the Prime Minister. Begins: I am shocked and grieved to hear of the death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. He was warm, friendly, considerate and humble which made him a great leader. The Government and people of Malaysia especially remember him for his selfless service to the country during and after the last war. We share the grief and sorrow of the people of Great Britain and the loss of a truly magnificent man. To his family we extend our sincere condolences. Datuk Hussein Onn, Prime Minister of Malaysia.

/ Grateful

~~Grateful~~ ^{Please} if you would convey the following reply.

Begins: Thank you very much for your ~~kind~~ message of sympathy ~~for~~ the death of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, which was indeed a great shock to me and to the Government and people of Great Britain as well as to his family. The tributes ~~which~~ we have received from his many friends all over the world are a consolation and a reminder that we do not grieve alone. I am arranging for your message to be passed to his family. Margaret Thatcher.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



31 AUG 1979

From the High Commissioner



*High Commission of the Democratic
Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
13, Hyde Park Gardens,
London W2 2LU*

30 August 1979

B.G. Cartledge Esq.,
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's Office,
10 Downing Street,
London.

Dear Mr. Cartledge -

I have been requested by my Prime Minister to transmit
the following message intended for your Prime Minister.

I shall be grateful if you would place this before her
as soon as is convenient.

Thanking you,

N. Wimalasena

(N. Wimalasena)

30 AUG 1970



SUBJECT

Communications on this subject should be
addressed to:

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.



**HIGH COMMISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.**

13 HYDE PARK GARDENS
LONDON W2 2LU

Our Reference

Your Reference

Telephone: 01-262 1841 (7 lines) Ext
Telegrams: Lankacom, London
Telex: 25844

Date 30 August 1979

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. TA1/79T

A TEXT OF MESSAGE TRANSMITTED BY CABLE
=====

To : The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP., Prime Minister

"Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

We are all deeply shocked at the news of the death of Earl Mountbatten as a result of a bomb attack by a terrorist group, and I join with the Government and people of Sri Lanka in conveying to you, the Government and the people of Britain our deepest sympathy on the great loss your country has suffered.

Earl Mountbatten was much admired and respected in Sri Lanka and his inspiring leadership of the war effort in the mid 1940s as Supreme Commander of the South-East Asia Command which had its headquarters in Kandy, are still remembered by those of us who lived through that period.

Earl Mountbatten's death at the hands of a group of assassins is another tragic reminder of the senseless and brutal crimes perpetrated by terrorists all the world over. The people of Sri Lanka join with your people in the universal condemnation that acts such as these draw from all civilized persons.

At a time of national grief such as this I wished you to know that we in Sri Lanka too share your sorrow and sense of bitterness at the criminal act that has cost the life of one of your country's most distinguished men.

Yours sincerely,
R. Premadasa,
Prime Minister of Sri Lanka."

Prime Minister

[Signature]

Ref. A0166

MR. CARTLEDGE

②
Prime Minister
3/8
3/8
Lord Mountbatten

I received a telephone call this evening from Herr Schueler, the administrative head of the Chancellery in Bonn. He spoke to me in Sir John Hunt's absence. He said that Chancellor Schmidt had been deeply shocked by the murder of Lord Mountbatten, and he wished his personal sympathy and the sympathy of the whole German people to be conveyed to the Prime Minister. Herr Schueler went on to say that Chancellor Schmidt had envisaged that a member of his Cabinet and a high ranking Naval officer would attend the funeral service in Westminster Abbey. But he understood from the German Embassy in London that Lord Mountbatten had himself approved the details of the service and he would not wish to do anything which would go counter to Lord Mountbatten's wishes.

I am pursuing the question of representation with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Lord Chamberlain's Office. It does not appear likely that there will be any problem about the kind of representation which Chancellor Schmidt envisaged. The purpose of this minute is therefore to convey Chancellor Schmidt's sentiments on the death of Lord Mountbatten.

M.J.V.

(M. J. Vile)

P.S. I have now heard that the German Ambassador has been told that Chancellor Schmidt's proposals for representation are entirely acceptable.

30th August, 1979

790 179
SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T90 AA | 79T

LHS 709

NNNN

ZCZC CLH307 LBK512 FLB5258 GWB554 PMU230 TL767/OFA-15/JVS

GBXX CO PHHA 057

MANILA 57/56 30 1840



HER EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER
LONDONSW1

THE FILIPINO PEOPLE AND MRS. MARCOS JOIN ME IN EXPRESSING
DEEP SHOCK AND SORROW OVER THE SUDDEN DEATH OF HIS HIGHNESS,
EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA. I JOIN YOU IN MOURNING THE LOSS OF
A BRILLIAN TSTATESMAN, DIPLOMAT AND SOLDIER

FERDINAND E. MARCOS

PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE PHILIPPINES

To send Telegrams — CONSULT TELEPHONE
DIRECTORY OR TELEX DIALLING CARD

POST OFFICE
TELEGRAPHS

INTERNATIONAL

Telegrams — CONSULT TELEPHONE
RY OR TELEX DIALLING CARD

POST OFFICE
TELEGRAPHS

To send Telegrams — CONSULT
DIRECTORY OR TELEX DIA

AUG 30 16 26 '79

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LHS 599

AUG 29 22 48 '79

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3994 SGX7851 1522

LUXEMBOURG1 81/78 29 1455 PAGE 1/50

SUBJECT

7 70/79T

ke FLO

Prime Minister

ky Amis

6/21
30/8

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE MRS MARGARET THATCHER M.P.

PRIME MINISTER

LONDON

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 790/79T

ON BEHALF OF THE LUXEMBOURG GOVERNEMENT AND IN MY OWN NAME I HAVE
THE HONOUR TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPLY CONDOLING FEELING ~~At~~ AT
LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S TRAGIC DEATH THE LUXEMBOURG PEOPLE RENDER HOMAGE
TO THE GREAT QUALITIES OF THE DECESED WHO

COL OK



PAGE 2/28

HAS CONTRIBUTED SO VIGOROUSLY TO THE LIBERATION OF THE WORLD FROM
TOTALITARIAN TYRANNY HIS MEMORY WILL BE KEPT IN GREAT HONOUR IN
THIS COUNTRY

PIERRE WERNER PRIME MINISTER

COL OK



LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	INITIAL RELEVANT BOX
PIECE/ITEM <i>13</i> [ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY]	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER A FOI EXEMPTION <i>Letter to Prime Minister dated 29 August 1979</i>	<i>AW</i>
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DATE <i>4 September 2009</i> SIGNED <i>AWayland</i>	

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Use the card for one piece/item number only

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Enter the lettercode, series and piece/item references clearly (eg

LETTERCODE/SERIES	GAB 168
PIECE/ITEM	49
ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY	

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The box described as "Missing" is for TNA use only (it will apply to a document that is not in its proper place after it has been transferred to TNA)

Sign and date the card.

R. PREMADASA, M.P.

Prime Minister



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF
SRI LANKA

29th August, 1979

Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
Prime Minister of Britain,
No. 10, Downing Street,
LONDON.

Dear Mrs Thatcher,

We are all deeply shocked at the news of the death of Earl Mountbatten as a result of a bomb attack by a terrorist group, and I join with the Government and people of Sri Lanka in conveying to you, the Government and the people of Britain, our deepest sympathy on the great loss your country has suffered.

Earl Mountbatten was much admired and respected in Sri Lanka and his inspiring leadership of the war effort in the mid-1940s as Supreme Commander of the Southeast Asia Command which had its headquarters in Kandy, are still remembered by those of us who lived through that period.

Earl Mountbatten's death at the hands of a group of assassins is another tragic reminder of the senseless and brutal crimes perpetrated by terrorists all the world over. The people of Sri Lanka join with your people in the universal condemnation that acts such as these draw from all civilized persons.

At a time of National grief such as this, I wish you to know that we in Sri Lanka too share your sorrow and sense of bitterness at the criminal act that has cost the life of one of your country's most distinguished men.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. Premadasa

2

~~Prime Minister~~

SW
30/8

GRPS 45A
UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN 291300Z AUGUST 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 227 OF 29 AUGUST 79

LORD MOUNBATTEN

PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE CONTINUE TO COME TO THE CHANCERY
TO SIGN THE BOOK OF CONDOLENCE: THERE HAVE BEEN MANY TELEPHONE
CALLS AND LETTERS EXPRESSING SORROW, SHOCK AND SHAME AND PAYING
TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EARL MOUNTBATTEN.

HAYDON
Fco/WH.
P9CD.

CHECKLIST OF SENDERS OF MESSAGES ATTACHED
TO MICHAEL ALEXANDER'S LETTER OF 29 AUGUST
TO STEPHEN WALL

Prime Ministers of Denmark

South Africa

Mauritius and

Norway

The Apostolic Delegate

The President of the European Commission

The London Representative of the "Turkish
Federated State of Cyprus"

29 August 1979

Murder of Lord Mountbatten

We spoke on the telephone just now about the handling of messages to the Prime Minister from Heads of Government and other prominent figures overseas. You agreed that you would seek advice on appropriate forms of acknowledgment in each case. I attach copies of those telegrams which have so far come to hand, with a checklist of senders. Copies of the texts of messages delivered by Embassies in London are coming to you separately.

It would clearly be helpful to have your guidance on replies that might be sent as soon as possible and in any case by 12 noon tomorrow.

MO'DBA

*1
early afternoon*

J.S. Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



EMBAJADA DE COSTA RICA
LONDRES

ECR-320-79

29th August, 1979

23/9
The Honourable
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear Prime Minister:

Please allow me to present to the British Government my personal and my government's profound condolence on the tragic death of Admiral of the Fleet The Earl Mountbatten of Burma and members of his family.

I can assure you that the event which is product of the most savage and brutal attack, is condemned by the people of Costa Rica, as it is by nations all over the world.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to the Prime Minister the assurance of my highest consideration.

C. Gutiérrez-Cañas
C. Gutiérrez-Cañas
Ambassador



2M
Decades

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

29 August 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 28 August to Mr. Cartledge, with which you enclosed a message to the Prime Minister from Monsieur Barre conveying his deep sympathy on the murder of Lord Mountbatten.

I have of course brought Monsieur Barre's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

Thank you also for your personal expression of regret.

MA

Monsieur Jean Max Bouchaud, KCVO.

SUBJECT



ROYAL NEPALESE EMBASSY,
12A, KENSINGTON PALACE GARDENS,
LONDON, W. 8.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T90 44479T

29th. August, 1979.

Dear Prime Minister,

I have the honour to convey the following
condolence message from The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
Surya Bahadur Thapa to Your Excellency on the sad
demise, under tragic circumstances, of Earl Mountbatten
of Burma.

Quote "I on behalf of my colleagues and
of my own convey my heartfelt condolences
to Your Excellency on the tragic death of
Lord Mountbatten." Unquote.

With the kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(J. N. Singha)
Ambassador

The Right Hon'ble Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 291318Z

CONFIDENTIAL

1 hms

TO IMMEDIATE ABIDJAN AND TO ALL OTHER HEADS OF MISSION
TEL NO 106 OF 29 AUGUST AND TO MOD (DEFENCE SERVICES SECRETARY)
MY TELNO 103: LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S FUNERAL

1. YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE FOLLOWING IN ANSWERING ANY
QUESTIONS ABOUT FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS:

(I) THE FUNERAL IS A ROYAL FUNERAL NOT (REPEAT NOT) A STATE FUNERAL.
IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY AT 1130 ON WEDNESDAY 5
SEPTEMBER. THE INTERMENT IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS AT ROMSEY WILL BE
PRIVATE.

(II) THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S
OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBLE FOR
SUCH MATTERS.

(III) THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BROADLY FOLLOW PLANS LONG SINCE
SKETCHED OUT BY LORD MOUNTBATTEN HIMSELF AND LORD BRABOURNE.

(IV) THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN IS SENDING OUT INVITATIONS ON THE BASIS
OF A LIST ESTABLISHED IN THIS WAY.

(V) LORD MOUNTBATTEN HAD PERSONALLY MADE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH
THE AUTHORITIES OR LONDON MISSIONS OF THE US, FRANCE, INDIA AND
BURMA FOR REPRESENTATION AT HIS FUNERAL. SUBSEQUENTLY LORD BRABOURNE
ARRANGED WITH THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES FOR THE PRESENCE OF A
DETACHMENT FROM A CANADIAN REGIMENT OF WHICH LADY BRABOURNE IS
COLONEL-IN-CHIEF. IN THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE REPUBLIC OF
IRELAND WILL ALSO BE REPRESENTED AT A HIGH LEVEL. SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE COUNTRIES' REPRESENTATION ARE THEREFORE
BEING MADE AND SEPARATE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE GONE TO THE RELEVANT
POSTS.

(VI) APART FROM THESE 6 COUNTRIES, INVITATIONS ARE BEING ISSUED TO
THE ROYAL FAMILIES TO WHOM LORD MOUNTBATTEN WAS RELATED
(BROADLY ALL EUROPEAN ROYAL AND EX-ROYAL FAMILIES).

(VII) COMMONWEALTH HIGH COMMISSIONERS AND THEIR WIVES ARE BEING
INVITED, BUT AMBASSADORS, OTHER THAN THOSE OF COUNTRIES MENTIONED IN
(V) ABOVE, ARE NOT, (REPEAT NOT) UNLESS THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED
PARTICULARLY WISH TO DESIGNATE THEM AS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES FOR
THE PURPOSE (BUT SEE (IX) BELOW), AND THEN ONLY IF THEY HAVE NOT
DESIGNATED ANOTHER SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE (EG THE KING OF THE

CONFIDENTIAL

/BELGIANS HAS

BELGIANS HAS SAID HE IS SENDING PRINCE ALBERT SO THE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN TOLD HE CANNOT BE INVITED).

(VIII) IF, BUT ONLY IF, OTHER COUNTRIES INDICATE THAT THE HEAD OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH TO ATTEND OR SEND A HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE YOU MAY UNDERTAKE TO FORWARD DETAILS BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAVE ALREADY INDICATED THAT THEY PROPOSE TO SEND A DOZEN OR SO EACH, BUT WE WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT WISH OTHERS TO SEND MORE THAN ONE REPRESENTATIVE IF THEY SEND ANYONE AT ALL.

(IX) IN VIEW OF THE VERY LARGE NUMBERS OF DOMESTIC ORGANISATIONS AND BODIES WISHING TO BE REPRESENTED, SPACE IN THE ABBEY IS STRICTLY LIMITED AND ATTENDANCE BY OTHERS THAN THOSE INVITED ((V)(VI) AND (VII) ABOVE) IS NOT (REPEAT NOT) TO BE ENCOURAGED.

(X) THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BE INVITED AS A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THIS IS PREDOMINANTLY A ROYAL AND A DOMESTIC OCCASION. IF IN THE EVENT, LARGE NUMBERS OF FOREIGN HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OR SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES DO COME TO LONDON, THE OFFICE MIGHT BE CALLED ON TO HELP LOOK AFTER THEM, BUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR STAY WILL BE ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF THEIR OWN MISSIONS AND WE ARE NOT, REPEAT NOT, (UNLESS SEPARATE INSTRUCTIONS INDICATE OTHERWISE) INTENDING TO ARRANGE SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR THEM OR MAKE THEM GUESTS OF GOVERNMENT.

(XI) IF THE PRESS MAKE ENQUIRIES ABOUT COVERING THE FUNERAL, THEY SHOULD BE TOLD TO CONTACT THE PRESS SECRETARY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE DIRECT (TELEPHONE NUMBER 01-930-4832). THEY SHOULD BE WARNED HOWEVER, THAT THERE WILL BE NO (REPEAT NO) SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING PRESS FROM OVERSEAS.

CARRINGTON

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PCD

COPIES TO:

LT COL SIR ERIC PENN KCVO OBE
MC
LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE

29 August 1979

I am writing on the Prime Minister's behalf to thank you for your letter to her of 28 August with which you conveyed a message expressing Herr Schmidt's dismay at the murder of Lord Mountbatten.

I have of course brought the Chancellor's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

The Prime Minister much appreciates your personal expression of regret at Monday's events.

MO'DBA

His Excellency

Herr Hans Hellmuth Ruete, G.C.V.O.

84

PRIME MINISTER

Lord Mountbatten's Funeral

The senior Ministers for whom seats are to be reserved have been informed and I have been in touch with the Labour and Liberal parties about their seats.

You minuted that seats should be offered to the leader of the Ulster Unionists and the Scottish National Party. The Deputy Chief Whip spoke to me today about arrangements for the funeral, and he wondered about seating the SNP (2 members only) in preference to the other small minority parties.

Would you be content, please, to confine the minority parties to a seat for Mr Molyneux?

A Wreath from the Government?

The Lord Chamberlain's Office say that Wreaths are to be sent to Romsey Abbey. Would you wish to send one for the Government? The file shows that the Government has not always sent flowers for the funerals of members of the Royal Family, but did so for the funerals of Queen Mary and the Duke of Windsor.

If you do wish a Wreath to be sent, it might be a substantial one (cream and white flowers?) accompanied by a card signed by you, with a suitable inscription. That for the Duke of Windsor in 1972 read

admiration and affection
"With ~~profound respect~~, and in grateful remembrance
of His Royal Highness's services to His Country and
to the British Empire, from Her Majesty's Ministers."

We would submit a draft

29 August 1979

*Agreed that
SNP for Molyneux will be there
ms*

*Yes please - a very
beautiful one if possible with
cream and white*

*yes please do -
not quite
right. CVP*

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The Daily Telegraph

No. 38639. LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1979

Printed in LONDON and MANCHESTER 10P

WIPAC
HAIR RAISER
Halogen driving lamps

Soldiers massacred as terrorist ambush follows assassination at sea

IRA BOMB KILLS MOUNTBATTEN

Three die as blast wrecks boat

By GUY RAIS in Dublin

EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, 79, his grandson Nicholas, 14, and a 17-year-old boatman were killed in a bomb blast aboard his boat at Mullaghmore, County Sligo, in the Irish Republic yesterday. The Provisional IRA claimed responsibility for the murders—and for the deaths of at least 15 soldiers in a landmine explosion in County Down, Ulster.

Seven people were in the Mountbatten boat party when the bomb exploded.

Lord Mountbatten's daughter Lady Brabourne, her son Timothy and her mother-in-law the Dowager Lady Brabourne were all in "a critical condition" in the intensive care unit of Sligo Hospital last night.

It is understood that Timothy, twin brother of Nicholas, has lost his sight because of the explosion. Lord Brabourne, who has a leg injury, is seriously ill in the men's surgical ward of the hospital.

The Provisional IRA issued a statement in which it claimed responsibility for "the execution of Lord Louis Mountbatten." It said his boat had been blown up by remote control, using 50lb of explosives.

Authorities discounted as a hoax a claim by the Irish National Liberation Army, murderers of the Mr Airey Neave, that they were responsible.

Lord Mountbatten, uncle of Prince Philip, a cousin of the Queen, and one of the country's most distinguished Service statesmen, was on his annual visit to his Irish home, Classiebawn Castle, only 12 miles from the border with Northern Ireland.

The 30 foot boat, the Shadow V, was moored about half a mile away at Mullaghmore harbour, from where Lord Mountbatten set out for a few hours' fishing with his family shortly before noon.

They had hardly got out of the harbour when there was a huge explosion and the boat disintegrated. A flotilla of small craft immediately set off from the shore and recovered the three bodies and the injured survivors.

Cordoned off

Lord Mountbatten was already dead when he was found. It is understood that his grandson, Nicholas, and the boatman, 17-year-old Paul Maxwell, of Enniskillen, just over the border in Northern Ireland, were also found dead.

Lady Brabourne, 55, her husband and their family were paying a visit to Lord Mountbatten from their home in Galway, further down the West Coast.

After the explosion, the village postmaster, Mr Patrick Kilfeather, said: "The roar of the

Villagers watch in horror

By Brenda Parry and Paul Potts in Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo

SEVERAL villagers in remote Mullaghmore watched in horror as Earl Mountbatten's familiar fishing boat was ripped apart by yesterday's explosion.

The outrage was unanimously condemned by shopkeepers, publicans and villagers who had met and chatted with Lord Mountbatten and his family over many years. They said he was a genial and friendly man.

Lord Mountbatten's holiday habits were well-known in the local community, where he had holidayed for more than 30 years. He used to take his locally-built boat, "Shadow V," out almost every day and mixed continually with the villagers.

The bomb which blew apart the "Shadow V," went off with-in sight and sound of virtually the whole community. Two members of the Garda Síochána who had been following the boat through binoculars saw the vessel's hull shatter.

The assistant chief fire officer for Sligo, Mr Paddy Murtagh said that it was less than 20 minutes before Lord Mountbatten's body was brought ashore.

"He was recognisable but his legs were badly injured. One of them severed at the knee. All of the injured were brought ashore very quickly apart from the boy Nicholas whose body was not found until some time later."

Mrs Elizabeth Duffy, 30, a former nurse living in the village, accompanied the injured to Sligo's modern hospital. She broke the news of Lord Mountbatten's death to Lord Brabourne.

"I decided there was no point in not telling him the truth so I broke it as gently as I could. Lord Brabourne did not say anything, but clenched his hands very tightly."

Mrs Duffy also described the condition of the victims as they were brought ashore.

"The Dowager had terrible face injuries and her hand was



Mountbatten's Life, Tributes and Pictures—Pages 2, 3, 4, 5; Peterborough, Special Article and Editorial Comment—P12.

The type of explosion used, and the method to detonate it, might prove impossible to establish because so much of the boat was destroyed.

One of the problems which faced the Irish security men was that Lord Mountbatten himself shunned security measures and would have made an easy target for terrorists.

It was well known in the area that Lord Mountbatten spent the month of August each year at Mullaghmore.

Lord Mountbatten had been staying at the castle every year for 35 years, and was well-liked by the local people.

"He was our friend, not an enemy," said one fisherman. "He came back every year. He



The body of Earl Mountbatten of Burma being carried from the harbour at Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo, last night.

Below: Lord Mountbatten in his uniform as Admiral of the Fleet.



Queen is 'deeply shocked' by death

By ANTHONY LOOCH

THE Queen was "deeply shocked" to hear of the death of Earl Mountbatten, a Buckingham Palace spokesman said last night. She was officially informed by the British Embassy in Dublin via No. 10 Downing Street.

Lord Mountbatten, known in the Royal Family as "Uncle Dickie," was a third cousin of the Queen and the uncle of Prince Philip. The Prince of Wales was godfather of Lord Mountbatten's grandson, Nicholas, who also died.

Prince Philip was told of his uncle's death in France, where he was to take part in the European trotting championships this week.

Inspector Jeffrey, his personal bodyguard, passed the word to him when they arrived at a stud farm near Argentan, Normandy.

Inspector Jeffrey said last night that arrangements for Prince Philip to return to Britain as soon as possible would be made at the London end. He did not expect to be

15 soldiers die in army's worst day

By COLIN BRADY in Belfast

FIFTEEN soldiers were killed in a huge explosion at Warrenpoint, Co. Down, 35 miles south of Belfast and near Ulster's border with the Irish Republic yesterday. Eight more were very seriously wounded, the Army said.

The men, from the 2nd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment and the Queen's Own Highlanders Regiment were in a three-lorry convoy when a mine, hidden in a load of hay on a vehicle they were passing, was detonated by remote control.

Survivors called their headquarters for aid, and within minutes of a Wessex helicopter landing in the area there was another explosion.

The helicopter, which was to take the wounded to hospital, was damaged in the second blast, but the pilot was able to take off and return to base at Bessbrook, Co. Armagh.

Then a gunbattle developed between troops and terrorists firing from the Republic across the narrow waters of Carlingford Lough.

The firefight lasted for almost 15 minutes, with troops

firing from behind hedges and helicopters hovering overhead giving fire orders.

Several soldiers were wounded in the battle, and later the body of a man, wrapped in a white sheet, was found on the Republic's side of the lough.

At first the Army believed he was a terrorist, but it was later disclosed that he was Michael Hudson, 29, son of one of the Queen's coachmen, who was on a fishing holiday. His parents live in the Royal Mews.

Buckingham Palace said last night the Queen had been told of his death.

The death toll yesterday was the worst suffered by the Army

Continued on Back P, Col 4

SECURITY REVIEW BY YARD

By T. A. SANDROCK
Scotland Yard Correspondent

THE position of important people who, like Earl Mountbatten, refuse to have bodyguards, was considered in a wide-ranging security review started yesterday as a result of the Sligo murders.

Senior Scotland Yard officers, including Special Branch and Bomb Squad men, also considered the position of members of the Royal Family and Government who have no connection, political or military, with Ireland and its problems.

If the targets for the terrorism are to be influential people not involved in Irish affairs but whose deaths would have international repercussions, the list

Desoutter's Almanac





The Dowager Lady Brabourne.

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If the targets for the terrorism are to be influential people not involved in Irish affairs but whose deaths would have international repercussions, the list of those at risk would be extensive and the task of guarding them enormous.

Lord Mountbatten declined any personal protection from police, although the dangers of his regular visits to Eire and his personal and international connections put him at risk. He was, however, given security advice.

50lb bomb

Police cannot force personal bodyguards on likely victims, and several have refused personal protection.

The attack on Lord Mountbatten and his family followed a similar pattern to that used in the murder of Mr Christopher Ewart-Briggs, British Ambassador to Dublin, killed by his secretary in July, 1976, by a bomb fixed to the car in which they were travelling.

That bomb was exploded by remote control, and experts believe a similar device was used yesterday as the most reliable method of ensuring the explosion when Lord Mountbatten was aboard his boat and at sea.

The size of the explosion yesterday suggests a bomb of about 50lb, quite sizeable to hide.

VLASOVA GOES HOME

By Our New York Staff

Ludmilla Vlasova, 36, the Bolshoi ballerina at the centre of the diplomatic tug of war between the United States and Russia, told American officials at Kennedy airport, New York, last night she wanted to go home. Her plane was delayed by a thunderstorm.

Return to Russia—Back page

brother of Nicholas, was lost his sight because of the explosion. Lord Brabourne, who has a leg injury, is seriously ill in the men's surgical ward of the hospital.

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Lady Brabourne, 55, her husband and their family were paying a visit to Lord Mountbatten from their home in Galway, further down the West Coast.

After the explosion, the village postmaster, Mr Patrick Kilfeather, said: "The roar of the explosion was heard more than a mile away. Immediately it happened, police cordoned off the area."

Mr Brian Wakeley, of Omagh, Co. Tyrone, was sailing in the bay at the time. "Lord Mountbatten's boat had just passed between me and the shore when there was suddenly a loud explosion."

"The boat disintegrated. One minute it was there, the next it was gone. Debris flew across the bay. I tried to reach the scene but I could not get there."

'Bits of wood'

Fourteen-year-old Denis Devlin, from Co. Tyrone, who was on holiday with his parents, said: "Lord Mountbatten's boat was coming towards me when there was a terrific explosion; the whole boat blew up in the air and came down in little pieces. There were bodies in the water, and people on shore were running around and screaming."

Among the first to reach the scene of the wreckage were Peter and Fiona Jones, from Armagh. They were about to cast their lines when the explosion occurred.

"We found the canopy of the boat in the water. Life-jackets, anoraks and shoes were floating on the water."

"When the smoke lifted, all that was left was little bits of wood. We could still see the hand lines which the party had been using to catch fish. They were floating about in the water."

Wreckage from the boat was gathered and brought ashore, and examined by a squad of Irish police technicians and detectives who had rushed to Sligo.



Mountbatten's Life, Tributes and Pictures—Pages 2, 3, 4, 5; Peterborough, Special Article and Editorial Comment—P12.

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Lord Mountbatten had been staying at the castle every year for 35 years, and was well-liked by the local people.

"He was our friend, not an enemy," said one fisherman. "He came back every year. He trusted us."

'Profound shock'

Mr George Colley, Deputy Prime Minister of the Dublin government expressed profound shock and regret at Lord Mountbatten's murder.

"I know that all Irish people will join me in condemning this cowardly and heartless outrage," he said.

"No effort will be spared to bring those responsible to justice, and I know that people throughout the country will give every possible assistance to the police in their investigations."

Later Mr Colley said he did not wish to speculate on the implications of the killings for the Pope's forthcoming visit.

"But clearly it has entered many people's minds that this creates more problems in connection with the Pope's visit. That will have to be considered carefully."

A message to the Irish Government from Senator Edward Kennedy said "No interest or cause is served by those committing these senseless acts of violence that have plagued Ireland for so many years."

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Mrs Duffy also described the condition of the victims as they were brought ashore.

"The Dowager had terrible face injuries and her hand was

Continued on Back P, Col 5

INDIA DECLARES ONE WEEK OF MOURNING

The Indian Government last night announced a seven-day period of mourning to mark Lord Mountbatten's death.

All Government offices will be closed for one day tomorrow at the start of the mourning period, and the national flag will fly at half mast for a week.

President Reddy said Lord Mountbatten, Britain's last Viceroy of India, would always occupy a place of honour among the country's friends. Mrs Indira Gandhi described him as "an extraordinary personality and born leader of men."—Reuter.

Mission to India—P5

FEE 'HORRIFIED'

Cardinal Thomas Fee, Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland, said in Rome last night that he was "totally appalled and horrified. This is mass murder and nothing can justify it."—Reuter.



Queen is 'deeply shocked' by death

By ANTHONY LOOCH

THE Queen was "deeply shocked" to hear of the death of Earl Mountbatten, a Buckingham Palace spokesman said last night. She was officially informed by the British Embassy in Dublin via No. 10 Downing Street.

Lord Mountbatten, known in the Royal Family as "Uncle Dickie," was a third cousin of the Queen and the uncle of Prince Philip. The Prince of Wales was godfather of Lord Mountbatten's grandson, Nicholas, who also died.

Prince Philip was told of his uncle's death in France, where he was to take part in the European trotting championships this week.

Inspector Jeffrey, his personal bodyguard, passed the word to him when they arrived at a stud farm near Argentan, Normandy.

Inspector Jeffrey said last night that arrangements for Prince Philip to return to Britain as soon as possible would be made at the London end. He did not expect to be able to leave immediately and was preparing to spend the night with his French hosts.

Prince Charles, on hearing the news of Lord Mountbatten's death, decided to cut short his angling holiday in Iceland and

Daughter takes title

Lord Mountbatten made plans for his funeral in 1976, when he arranged that all countries — about 40—whose soldiers served under him during the 1939-45 war would be represented there.

Lady Brabourne, 55, Lord Mountbatten's elder daughter and mother of Nicholas, who is herself in hospital, succeeds to the title.

She married Baron Brabourne in 1946 and had five sons, the eldest of whom, Norton Louis Philip, 31, a godson of Prince Philip, becomes heir to the Mountbatten as well as the Brabourne title.

Today's Weather

GENERAL SITUATION: Pressure will remain high over S. Britain while troughs cross N. Scotland. LONDON, S.E., CEN. S., S.W. ENGLAND, MIDLANDS, E. ANGLIA, S. WALES: Early mist patches, dry, sunny spells. Wind W. or S.W., light. 68F (20C). CHANNEL IS.: Dry, sunny. Wind variable, light. 66F (19C). S. NORTH SEA, STRAIT OF DOVER, ENGLISH CH. (E.): Wind variable becoming S., force 1-3 or 4. Sea smooth or slight.

OUTLOOK: Mainly dry, sunny spells, possibly rain later in W.

Weather Maps—P22

HUMIDITY FORECAST

(Wed.)
London Noon 6 p.m. 6 a.m.
65(59) 55(49) 95(81)
Birmingham 65(65) 55(60) 95(85)
Manchester 65(60) 60(60) 85(85)
Newcastle 70(65) 65(60) 85(80)
Yesterday's readings in brackets.

TV and Radio Programmes
and Entertainment Guide
Inside Back Page

worst day

By COLIN BRADY in Belfast

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Buckingham Palace said last night the Queen had been told of his death.

The death toll yesterday was the worst suffered by the Army

Continued on Back P, Col 4

Desoutter's Almanac



- ★ **VIRGO (Aug 22-Sep 22).** A good week for taking far-sighted business decisions. Order lots of Desoutter Auto-Feed Drills.
- ★ **LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22).** You will get plenty of encouragement from colleagues if you recommend they invest in Desoutter Auto-Feed Drills.
- ★ **SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22).** This is the time to abandon old methods and make a fresh start. Order a few Desoutter AFD's. Your lucky number is 36.
- ★ **SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 20).** One of those periods where you feel the need to do several things at once. Fine — you can drill umpteen holes simultaneously with a Desoutter AFD system.
- ★ **CAPRICORN (Dec 21-Jan 19).** If you find your life is boring and full of repetitive activities, get a Desoutter AFD. It's perfect for repetitive drilling.
- ★ **AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18).** Beware of taking extravagant financial decisions. Order an economical slim-line Desoutter AFDM.
- ★ **PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20).** You may find you're getting into certain matters more deeply than you would wish. If so, the depth control of a Desoutter AFD permits drilling to a very precise depth.
- ★ **ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20).** You may find you aren't getting into certain matters as deeply as you would wish. A pecking unit on a Desoutter AFD clears swarf automatically.
- ★ **TAURUS (Apr 21-May 20).** You'll notice there's something new and exciting in the air. It's called an electric Desoutter Auto-Feed Drill.
- ★ **GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20).** For Geminis, there is only one way out of your present problems: order a Desoutter AFD with a twin-head attachment.
- ★ **CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 20).** Interesting opportunities will occur at work around the end of the week — if you send for a Desoutter AFD Catalogue today.
- ★ **LEO (Jul 21-Aug 21).** Sit back and do nothing. We don't want too many orders for AFD's all at once!

Desoutter

Desoutter Ltd, 319 Edgware Road, Colindale, London NW9 6ND

Assassination 'is part of the war to liberate the people of the six counties'

KILLING WAS JUSTIFIED SAY U.S. IRISH REPUBLICANS

By A. J. McILROY in New York

THE assassination of Earl Mountbatten was "justified and to be condoned," a spokesman for the Irish Republican Movement in America said in New York yesterday.

I was referred to him by officials of the Irish Northern Aid Committee, the biggest fund-raising organisation in the United States for dependants of IRA terrorists.

In the Broadway offices of the newspaper *Irish People*, American organ for the Republican movement supporting the IRA, the spokesman said: "We cannot speak for the Provisional IRA.

"But it has been established that the House of Lords, of which Earl Mountbatten was a most prominent member, has passed legislation that has been oppressive to the Irish people.

"The Republican Movement cannot believe that the House of Lords can be treated as anything other than hostile to the Irish people. It cannot be treated as neutral."

'Part of the war'

The Lords had necessarily approved legislation that had proved oppressive to the people of Northern Ireland and what ever happened to Earl Mountbatten was "the responsibility of the British Government.

"It would be wrong to take individual acts, like this assassination, out of context, or as one separate act.

"The death of Earl Mountbatten must be seen as part of the war that is going on to liberate the people of the Six Counties and to bring about a united Ireland. His death was part of the war effort."

For a subscription of \$10 (£4.80) a year the *Irish People* is circulated among America's big Irish community.

It claims it does not speak for, or represent, the IRA. The republican spokesman was speaking for the organisations supporting the Provisional IRA and the Provisional Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing.

It was not speaking for those Irish Americans supporting the official IRA which reportedly pulled out of the Ulster terrorism after the death of a priest among those killed by the official IRA in an army barracks in Aldershot.

deplore the murder of Earl Mountbatten and to condemn the IRA.

Correspondents contacting representatives of the Irish community for reaction to the murder found these moderates to be overwhelmingly in the majority.

While no one in the Irish Northern Aid Committee was admitting it, the murder will deal a crippling blow to its fund-raising and to the renewed campaign, started a month ago, to capitalise on the build-up to next year's American Presidential and Congressional elections when leading politicians will be after the Irish vote.

Thousands of ex-servicemen in the United States are familiar with Lord Mountbatten's roles as a combat leader in Europe and in leading the allies to victory against the Japanese in South-East Asia. And for many Americans he was one of the true heroes of the war.

He was probably as well-known and respected in America as anyone outside the immediate Royal Family.

Even American political figures who have recently been critical of Britain's handling of the problems of Northern Ireland, including New York Governor Hugh Carey, were said to be shocked at the news and were expected to issue public denunciations.

Hollywood friends

A leading American news agency, the Associated Press, said that the life of Lord Mountbatten was a symbol of the British Empire in the 20th Century and that his death was "a tragic reflection of the United Kingdom's modern-day turmoil."

Americans regarded Lord Mountbatten and his late wife, Edwina, who died in 1960, as one of the world's most glamorous couples.

The couple spent their honeymoon in 1922 at the Hollywood home of Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. Charlie Chaplin gave the Mountbattens roles in his film, "Nice and Friendly," as a wedding present.

The State Department, which has recently suspended arms sales to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said last night: "We are deeply saddened by the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten."

"He was one of the greatest military leaders and statesmen of our day. Americans will especially recall his great contribution to our cause in World War Two, as well as many services to his country and the world since then."

There was no immediate reaction from congress, where Irish-American politicians have been intensely critical in recent weeks of Britain's role in Ulster.



Lord Mountbatten appearing in "This is Your Life" on television two years ago. With him are his daughters, Lady Pamela Hicks (seated, left), and Lady Brabourne with her husband. In the second row are their twin sons Nicholas and Timothy, 14.

Dublin clampdown on terrorism expected

By TERENCE SHAW, Legal Correspondent

THE assassination of Lord Mountbatten is expected to force the hand of the Dublin Government to introduce even more stringent powers to deal with terrorist killings in the Irish Republic.

Although the Republic at present has some of the most draconian anti-terrorist laws of any democratic country, a recent wave of bank robberies and kidnappings in the south had already put Mr Lynch's government under pressure to tighten the law still further.

While the death penalty is still retained in the Irish Republic for certain categories of murder including killings "in furtherance of the activities of an unlawful organisation," there was doubt last night whether Lord Mountbatten's killers could be hanged if caught and convicted in the South.

Despite his close relationship to the Royal Family, Lord Mountbatten, even by a citizen of Northern Ireland, would

amount to treason which still carries the death penalty.

The scope of the 1951 Treason Act covers only the death of a reigning sovereign, his Queen or his eldest son and heir. While the Queen of a reigning monarch would be protected, the Act would not even appear to cover an assassination of Prince Philip.

The last occasion that the Irish Republic tightened its security laws was after the assassination of the British ambassador to Dublin, Mr Christopher Ewart-Biggs, in July 1976.

His killers are still at large and could face the death penalty if caught and convicted in the South.

While the death penalty for most murders was abolished in the south in 1964, it was still retained for the murder of a policeman, a prison officer, a member of the security forces, heads of state and diplomatic representatives and murders "in furtherance of the activities of an unlawful organisation."

as defined in the Offences Against the State Act 1939.

ANGRY MPs 'How much more...'

Mr David Atkinson, Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, said that the forthcoming visit to Ireland of the Pope could be used constructively together with an initiative by American politicians.

At the same time, in a telegram to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Keith Stainton, Conservative MP for Sudbury and Woodbridge, said that Irish Premier Mr Lynch should be invited to London "to account for full security co-operation."

In his statement, Mr Atkinson said: "How much further must these people with such twisted minds go and how much longer must they go on making their political points within a free society at the expense of so many lives of politicians, diplomats, soldiers, police, volunteers and, not least, thousands of fathers, mothers and innocent children?"

'Do not cry at funeral'

Daily Telegraph Reporter

EARL MOUNTBATTEN said in his own BBC television obituary last night that he hoped people would remember that he had always liked a joke and would not cry at his funeral. "I hope it will be a happy occasion."

In a film made two years ago, he said, "Now that I have come to the end of my useful life, there is no point in remaining alive forever and merely becoming a burden to people."

"So I do not mind death now when it comes, as long as it is a reasonably peaceful and satisfying sort of death."

Lord Mountbatten said it was "an awful thing" to be sad at funerals, and he hoped people would not cry at his. "I have enjoyed the fun of life and I am going to enjoy the fun of dying. I am only sorry I will not be there to see the fun of the funeral."

No burial at sea

Asked what funeral arrangements he wanted, he said he would prefer not to be burned or buried at sea.

"I would really like just to be buried in my home town of Romsey. How they do it is entirely the decision of the authorities. I am ready to go along with anything they do."

The hymns he wanted were Rudyard Kipling's "Recessional" — "be part about the captain and kings"; Sir Cecil Spring-Rice's "I vow to thee my country: 'Jerusalem' and at least one verse from the Naval hymn, "For Those In Peril on the Sea."

Peterborough—P12

EIRE DRUG AND GUN CHARGE

Jim McCann, wanted in several countries for arms smuggling and terrorist crimes, was charged yesterday with illegal possession of a weapon and ammunition and resisting arrest in County Kildare last Saturday.

Police said McCann had 12 aliases. He was also charged with possession of marijuana and remanded in custody until next Monday. He was arrested with two other men when police seized marijuana valued at £1 million in a lorry.



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batten must be seen as part of the war that is going on to liberate the people of the Six Counties and to bring about a united Ireland. His death was part of the war effort."

For a subscription of \$10 (£4.80) a year the *Irish People* is circulated among America's big Irish community.

It claims it does not speak for, or represent, the IRA. The republican spokesman was speaking for the organisations supporting the Provisional IRA and the Provisional Sinn Féin, the IRA's political wing.

It was not speaking for those Irish Americans supporting the official IRA which reportedly pulled out of the Ulster terrorism after the death of a priest among those killed by the official IRA in an army barracks in Aldershot.

Mr Michael Flannery, leader of the Irish Northern Aid Committee and, as such, the man responsible for most of the fund-raising among ordinary Irish-American families, told me at the committee's Bronx headquarters: "We have never denied our aims are the same as the IRA and that we do."

"We will continue to support the Provisional Irish Republican Army in its fight to get the British out of Northern Ireland."

He added: "The more British soldiers who go back in their coffins the sooner it will be over."

Whatever the Republican Movement in America was saying yesterday, moderate organisations in the Irish-American communities of New York, Philadelphia, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, San Francisco and other cities were the first to

home of Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. Charlie Chaplin gave the Mountbattens roles in his film, "Nice and Friendly," as a wedding present.

The State Department, which has recently suspended arms sales to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said last night: "We are deeply saddened by the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten."

"He was one of the greatest military leaders and statesmen of our day. Americans will especially recall his great contribution to our cause in World War Two, as well as many services to his country and the world since then."

There was no immediate reaction from congress, where Irish-American politicians have been intensely critical in recent weeks of Britain's role in

to introduce even more stringent powers to deal with terrorist killings in the Irish Republic.

Although the Republic at present has some of the most draconian anti-terrorist laws of any democratic country, a recent wave of bank robberies and kidnappings in the south had already put Mr Lynch's government under pressure to tighten the law still further.

While the death penalty is still retained in the Irish Republic for certain categories of murder including killings "in furtherance of the activities of an unlawful organisation," there was doubt last night whether Lord Mountbatten's killers could be hanged if caught and convicted in the South.

Despite his close relationship

with the Queen, it is not thought that the murder of Lord Mountbatten, even by a citizen of an unlawful organisation

If captured in Northern Ireland, there would be no problem bringing them to trial there for murders committed outside the jurisdiction.

They would be tried under provisions of the Criminal Jurisdiction Act which gave courts in the north power to try defendants for offences committed in the south.

Though a close relative of the Queen, it is not thought that the murder of Lord Mountbatten, even by a citizen

the Queen of a reigning monarch would be protected, the Act would not even appear to cover an assassination of Prince Philip.

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Panache and sheer professionalism of an aristocrat with the common touch

HOW THE WAR WAS WON IN BURMA

By Brig. W. F. K. THOMPSON

SOME will remember Earl Mountbatten as the last Viceroy of India and the first Governor-General of independent India.

Others will remember him for his four years as Chief Defence Staff from 1959 to 1963 during which the foundations were laid for welding three

separate Service ministries into a single Ministry of Defence.

To these, Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma must seem a fitting title for the Elder Statesman he had become.

But to hundreds of thousands who served under his supreme command in South East Asia, Lord Louis, or Dicky Mountbatten is the style which more surely conveys the panache with which he carried out his war services.

When, at the age of 43, he was given Supreme Allied Command in South East Asia, the Japanese were knocking on the gates of India. At the Quebec conference in 1943 it was decided to cut the Japanese lines of communication by a major amphibious assault to capture Rangoon.

For this a large number of assault ships and aircraft and five British and Indian divisions were to be diverted from the European theatre. The course of the war in Europe prevented this.

Mountbatten had to liberate Burma the hard way by a long overland slog through atrocious country from the Indian frontier.

Although his resources were minimal for the task in hand they were in total formidable. The Allied air forces that played such a vital role in the combat and logistic support were predominantly under American command. The land forces were predominantly British and Indian, the two countries having some 250,000 men in Burma.

Churchill's signal

When Rangoon fell in May, 1945, Churchill's signal congratulating Mountbatten highlighted the achievements of the campaign.

The Royal Navy had gained undisputed control of the sea. Allied air forces had utterly vanquished the Japanese and maintained an air supply to the land forces on a colossal and unprecedented scale. The Fourteenth Army under Gen. Sir William Slim had fought valiantly overcoming all obstacles and achieved the seemingly impossible, American and British engineers had laid 3,000 miles of pipe line over rivers and mountains and through jungles.

Mountbatten had the distinction of being the only sailor who as an Allied Supreme Commander had responsibility for conducting a major land campaign. He was extremely fortunate in having Gen. Slim nine years his senior, as the inspired commander of the Fourteenth Army.

But the Burma campaign was an outstanding logistical achievement and logistics start at the base. Mountbatten was a superb leader who got on well with his allies. An aristocrat with the common touch, he could talk equally with sailors, soldiers and airmen.

Mountbatten's success as a military leader was outstanding. It was not his character or family connections, which it can be argued would have marked him out for high command in any case. But his sheer professionalism.

Gifted with charm and natural powers of leadership, with courage, imagination and an inventive turn of mind, he was supremely well endowed for military leadership in the age in which he lived.

WINDSOR VISITORS



A war-time picture of Earl Mountbatten, as the Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia, inspiring his men in Burma.



Lord Mountbatten taking a close look at a rifle while visiting the British 36th Division in Central Burma in 1945.

A great commander 'who had all the qualities required'

By CLARE HOLLINGWORTH, Defence Correspondent

LORD MOUNTBATTEN was a great person who had all the qualities required of a war-time commander, says Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, the only other man to have become Chief of Defence Staff after a spell as First Sea Lord.

Lord Hill-Norton was deeply impressed by the manner in which Mountbatten, after having been Supreme Commander in South-East Asia and Viceroy of India, returned to the Navy "to pick up his career as a junior Rear Admiral" in 1949.

This was, in Lord Hill-Norton's view, a clear indication of character and of his determination to succeed his father as First Sea Lord.

Lord Mountbatten retained a deep bitterness throughout his life that his father, Prince Louis

saw the co-location of the three Services—Army, Navy and Air Force—in 1964 at the Ministry of Defence.

Mountbatten did not receive the credit for this excellent diplomatic and technical piece of work, which went to the then Defence Minister, Denis Healey.

The fellow Admiral also regarded Mountbatten as a great conversationalist. A man of "endless sympathy" for people in whom he was interested.

General Sir John Hackett, who first met Lord Mountbatten in Adelaide, Australia, in 1921 when he was acting as ADC and friend to the Prince of Wales, was less flattering.

He said Mountbatten was a great commander who was morally as well as physically extremely brave and who used his enormous charisma to great advantage.

But General Hackett, who was Principal of King's College, London, and is editor of a current best seller, "The Third World War," was somewhat critical of Mountbatten's judgment.

'GOLDEN THREAD OF SERVICE'

EARL Mountbatten's life "ran like a golden thread of inspiration and service" through the history of Britain this century, Mrs THATCHER said last night.

Britain had suffered a great loss. "He was one of our greatest commanders and a great seaman. His service as the pioneer and chief of Combined Operations and as Supreme Allied Commander in South-East Asia made a contribution without parallel to the defeat of tyranny in the Second World War."

But he did more than his duty both in war and peace, said the Prime Minister.

"He did not simply follow the rules; he made them. It was his genius as a man of ideas and his readiness to challenge established custom which so endeared him not only to the Royal Navy, but to the whole British people."

"His life was a sequence of service to peoples the world over. To his courage in battle he added the moral courage of the statesman."

"He was dedicated to building a better world for and through the young people of all nations."

"He was a legend in his lifetime. His death leaves a gap which can never be filled."

"The British people give thanks for his life and grieve at his passing."

Mrs Thatcher has sent a private telegram of condolence to the Queen at Balmoral.

'Immense energy'

Mr CALLAGHAN, leader of the Opposition, who is also on holiday in Ireland, said: "I am deeply shocked to hear the news and I send my sincere sympathy to his family."

Mr Callaghan, in a BBC radio interview, said: "This is something that everyone will deeply mourn, especially the savage and tragic manner of Lord Mountbatten's death, and of his grandson and the friend who had been with him."

"He had been a friend and colleague of mine for 50 years since we first served together as members of the Board of Admiralty," the former Prime Minister said.

"He was always very ready to give advice and assistance whenever he was asked. He had the most immense energy and



Lord Mountbatten conferring with Lt-Gen Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Forces in China, Burma and India, somewhere on the Burma Front.

A hero who inspired by his example

TRIBUTES to Earl Mountbatten poured in yesterday from home and abroad, from those who had served with him and, as one Vice-Admiral put it, those who wished they had served with him.

Admiral Sir TERENCE LEWIN, First Sea Lord, who takes over as Chief of the Defence staff in September, said: "Lord Mountbatten more than any other of the wartime leaders was the hero of my generation."

"He was always an innovator, ahead of his time, always a tremendous enthusiast. We were inspired by his example."

Vice-Admiral Sir RONALD BROCKMAN, a close personal friend of Lord Mountbatten since 1935, described him as "one of the most outstanding men of our time, outstanding in every way."

'A great leader'

Sir Ronald, who saw Lord Mountbatten regularly and most recently last month, added: "This is an absolutely shattering blow. I shall miss him more than I can say."

He served with Lord Mountbatten from 1945 until his retirement in 1965 and used to stay at Broadlands, the Mountbatten family home.

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Captain BRIAN WILLIAMS, who served as a junior officer under Lord Mountbatten during his last six months as Chief of Defence Staff, said: "It was a marvellous experience to work for him. He took great care of his staff."

Retired Able Seaman JAMES MARINER, a survivor of HMS Petrel which refused to surrender to the Japanese and was sunk in Shanghai harbour on the first day of hostilities against Japan, recalled how Lord Mountbatten singled him out at the Spithead Review of the Fleet two years ago.

'Friend of the Jews'

Mr GREVILLE JANNER, Labour MP for Leicester West and President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said: "Earl Mountbatten was a loved and respected friend of our community."

Sir CARL AARVOLD, chairman of the Royal Automobile Club, spoke of "the wisdom, the judgment, the interest, the courage and the leadership that made him renowned throughout the world." Lord Mountbatten was president of the RAC for 36 years.

From abroad, a palace spokesman in Stockholm said that King CARL GUSTAF was deeply saddened to learn of his great uncle's death. Earl Mountbatten was the brother of the late Queen Louise of Sweden, wife of King Gustaf Adolf, the grandfather of the present king.

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spoke very good German. Adml Ruge recalled that Lord Mountbatten had been "much relieved" to hear that West Germany proposed to build only a modest fleet with a limited role confined to the Baltic and its approaches.

Speaking by telephone from his retirement home in the university town of Tübingen, the German admiral described Lord Mountbatten as "a very nice man, an imposing figure, businesslike and efficient."

'War with decency'

As fellow-sailors and as individuals they had struck up a good human relationship.

Adml. Ruge, who during the war commanded a minesweeping force on the French coast at a time when Lord Mountbatten was planning combined operations against Hitler's coastal defences, said that the German navy always had the greatest respect for the Royal Navy.

"There was no hatred among us for the British," he said. "The war at sea was conducted with decency on both sides."

SOUTH AFRICA'S NAVY PLANS A TRIBUTE

By Our Johannesburg Correspondent

The South African Navy, which still has close links with the Royal Navy, despite the breaking of Commonwealth links in 1961, will honour Earl Mountbatten in "a suitable way," a spokesman said last night.

Rear Admiral Jimmy Green, Chief of Naval Staff, who served as a sub-lieutenant under Lord Mountbatten aboard the Glengyle in the Mediterranean during World War Two, said: "He was a British sailor of the calibre of Nelson. He inspired his men and never asked a man to do anything he was not prepared to do himself."

Twenty-eight ex-Navy and Wren members of South Africa's "M.O.T.H.S." the Memorable Order of Tin Hats—equivalent to the Royal British Legion—are travelling to Bulawayo, Rhodesia, this weekend for a long-planned reunion with former Rhodesian comrades, and they plan to pay a tribute together to Lord Mountbatten.

Lord Mountbatten never visited South Africa, but his assassination was brought sharply home to South Africans because a 12-year-old ITV series, "The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten," is currently being shown on television.

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WINDSOR VISITORS

Tourists by the hundreds poured into Windsor Castle yesterday afternoon to pay homage to Earl Mountbatten. "Response from the public has been quite amazing," said an official.



Lord Mountbatten taking a close look at a rifle while visiting the British 36th Division in Central Burma in 1945.

A great commander 'who had all the qualities required'

By CLARE HOLLINGWORTH, Defence Correspondent

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This was, in Lord Hill-Norton's view, a clear indication of character and of his determination to succeed his father as First Sea Lord.

Lord Mountbatten retained a deep bitterness throughout his life that his father, Prince Louis of Battenburg, was forced to resign from his post in the wave of anti-German emotion at the opening of the 1914-18 War.

Mountbatten achieved this ambition in 1955 but at every

level of command he exhibited remarkable qualities of leadership.

He was not just an enormous personality but a brilliant innovator who made worthwhile technical contributions to the then new-fangled wireless communications system as Fleet Wireless Officer in the Mediterranean between 1931 and 1935.

Mountbatten was "a hard task master," Lord Hill-Norton admitted, who "sought perfection in himself and demanded tremendous devotion from his staff."

In addition, Lord Hill-Norton said, Mountbatten was "unflinching" in getting his own way and, once he had made up his mind what he wanted to do, nothing would stop him.

Like Churchill, Lord Hill-Norton stressed, Mountbatten paid great attention to detail.

It was Mountbatten, said Lord Hill-Norton, who "fore-

saw the co-location of the three Services"—Army, Navy and Air Force—in 1964 at the Ministry of Defence.

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But General Hackett, who was Principal of King's College, London, and is editor of a current best seller, "The Third World War," was somewhat critical of Mountbatten's judgment both as a commander in the field and as Chief of the Defence Staff from 1959-65 when the charisma sometimes seemed more important and significant than the judgments he made.

Praise from enemies

Japanese officers who fought against him in the 1939-45 War had nothing but praise for "the Great Commander" who beat them as a result of the Burma Campaign and his skilful co-operation with the Americans at sea.

The Chinese dubbed him "great," but were not warm to him as they normally are to visiting military commanders, perhaps because he arrived in Peking at a time which was politically difficult for them.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, before leaving for Sri Lanka last night, said to me: "Lord Mountbatten was one of the greatest public servants of this century."

"He distinguished himself first as a sailor, then as a commander in war of all three Services, and later as a public administrator as the last Viceroy of India."

"As a Minister who worked closely with him, I greatly admired his far-sightedness as well as practical abilities, his diplomacy as well as his technical skills."

General de Gaulle greatly admired Lord Mountbatten as a commander "with panache and skill."

Nor can there be any doubt of the importance of the role Mountbatten played as a commander with experience when the Far Eastern campaigns were planned at the meeting between President Roosevelt, Chiang Kai-shek and Churchill in Cairo in November, 1943.

service

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"He was always very ready to give advice and assistance whenever he was asked. He had the most immense energy and vitality, and a lively and constructive imagination that enabled him to find new solutions to old problems."

HAPPIEST—AMONG HIS IRISH FRIENDS

CLASSIEBAWN Castle, from which Lord Mountbatten went to his death yesterday, was his favourite place to relax—as it had been for his late wife, Edwina, to whose family the estate belonged.

Vice-Admiral Sir Ronald Brockman, a family friend, said yesterday: "Dickie loved that rugged part of Ireland, and knew just about everyone in the district. He loved to take family and friends fishing and swimming from his boat."

The 10-bedroom limestone "castle" on Benbulbin Brow, near Sligo town, provided splendid views to the Atlantic in the west, and Donegal Bay in the north.

In 1976 the estate, by then considerably reduced to 1,500 acres, was leased to an Irish businessman for 21 years, with the proviso that Lord Mountbatten could use it for one month each year for holidays.

"More and more the the Classiebawn month became the highlight of the year," a friend said. In addition to the fishing for trout, there were frequent leisurely rides on estate horses over the pine-clad hills, preferably with grandchildren.

A hero who inspired by his example

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TOWN & COUNTRY

Personal charm of a legendary war hero, statesman and administrator

MOUNTBATTEN'S DAZZLING LIFE OF LEADERSHIP

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, who was killed yesterday aged 79, had a dazzling and varied career. He retired in July, 1965, as Chief of the Defence Staff and was then made a member of the Order of Merit.

He was the last Viceroy of India and the first Governor-General of the new Dominion, now the Republic, in the creating of which he had played a leading part.

During his long career in the Royal Navy, in which he served in both world wars, he established a reputation for resource and gallantry. His élan was allied to a personal charm and to qualities of leadership that gained him admiration.

An uncle of Prince Philip, he was born at Frogmore House, Windsor. His father, Prince Louis of Battenburg, First Sea Lord at the outbreak of the 1914-18 war, was made Marquess of Milford Haven in 1917. His mother was Princess Victoria, daughter of Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse, and Princess Alice, daughter of Queen Victoria.

The young Prince Louis, as he was known until his father relinquished his foreign titles and assumed the surname of Mountbatten, had passed through Osborne and Dartmouth by 1916, in time to see war service in HMS Lion, HMS Queen Elizabeth and in submarines.

He was in the Battle of Jutland, and ended the war as a sub-lieutenant. In 1920-21 he served in the Renown during the then Prince of Wales's tours of Australia and New Zealand and of the Far East.

He specialised in radio communications, and invented a device which became standard in the Royal Navy, enabling ships to keep station. He was Fleet Wireless Officer of the Mediterranean Fleet, 1931-33, and was promoted the youngest captain in 1937.

His ship safely

home again

He spent most of the first two years of the 1939-45 war in command of HMS Kelly, and of the Fifth Destroyer Flotilla. His exploits in this post became almost legendary.

The Kelly hit a mine in the English Channel in November, 1939, and six months later was torpedoed in the North Sea. On the second occasion the destroyer was almost cut in two.

Mountbatten refused to abandon ship and got the ship to port after 91 hours, during which she was repeatedly a target for aerial attacks.

In 1940, while the Kelly was being repaired, he was in command of HMS Javelin when torpedoes blew off her bow and stern. Mountbatten got his ship safely home again.

Back in the reconditioned Kelly he took part in the Battle of Crete in 1941. Here a dive-bomber scored a direct hit and the destroyer sank within minutes. Mountbatten was picked up from the sea.

Then began one of the most remarkable phases of his career. Sir Winston Churchill had decided on the formation of Commandos to harry the enemy coastline and to prepare for invasion of the Continent.

Mountbatten was recalled from command of the aircraft-carrier Illustrious, then being repaired in America, to lead them. Commodore, Combined Operations in 1941, he was appointed Chief in the following year.

Japan surrendered in August 1945, after atomic bombs had been dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. But it was in Singapore in September 1945 that Mountbatten accepted the formal surrender of the Japanese southern armies.

Many years later, in 1968, Mountbatten revealed that he was prevented from sending troops to occupy Hanoi by President Truman and Mr. Attlee, the Prime Minister, because northern Vietnam had been apportioned to the Chinese under Gen. Chiang Kai-shek. He said the Vietnam troubles stemmed from the Potsdam agreement which made an arbitrary division at the 16th parallel.

Brought the British

Raj to an end

When the Attlee Government decided in February, 1947, to put into immediate effect the policy of granting independence to India, the delicate task of transferring power was entrusted to Mountbatten, who succeeded Earl Wavell as Viceroy in March.

He was given *carte blanche* to bring the British Raj to an end within 16 months, but he actually completed his mission in five.

During this period all hope of preserving Indian unity was finally abandoned and the sub-continent was divided into the two new Dominions of India and Pakistan, while the princely States, with which Britain had treaty relations, were virtually left to fend for themselves.

In his quick-fire negotiations with politicians and princes Mountbatten acted ruthlessly, to the point of taking a calculated risk with the lives of minorities on both sides of the partition line.

As first Governor-General of the new India he stayed long enough to witness the communal massacres that followed.

Promoted Admiral

of the Fleet

Whether a less precipitate relinquishment of responsibility might have diminished this major tragedy, and whether Mountbatten held the balance fairly between the two new Dominions, are still matters of dispute. They were passionately argued in Britain at the time, and for many years cost Mountbatten the friendship of Churchill.

Mountbatten left India in June, 1948 and became Flag Officer Commanding the First Cruiser Squadron, Mediterranean Fleet.

He was promoted Vice-Admiral in 1949, Admiral in 1953 and Admiral of the Fleet in 1956.

Before his appointment as Defence Chief of Staff he was successively Fourth Sea Lord, C-in-C, Allied Forces Mediterranean, and First Sea Lord.

He was made a viscount in 1946, and Earl Mountbatten, and Baron Romsey, in the following year. He became K.G. in 1946.

In 1956 he was appointed Colonel of the Life Guards and



● Earl Mountbatten of Burma (arrowed) standing with members of the Royal Family, and Kings and Queens from European countries, at Buckingham Palace after the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip in 1947.



Picture taken from "Mountbatten, Eighty Years in Pictures," to be published by Macmillan on September 20, 1979, at £8.95.

● Lord Mountbatten accepting the ceremonial sword of Field Marshal Count Terauchi, Supreme Commander, Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Saigon in 1945. The surrender of the sword's case signified that the Japanese did not expect it to be returned.

● Left: The Queen and her uncle attending a charity premiere last October.

● Right: Lord and Lady Mountbatten, as Viceroy and Vicereine of India, walking down a hill near Peshawar during a mass demonstration by Moslems in 1947.



Princess Alice, daughter of Queen Victoria.

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Ranks in all three Services

At this time he had the unique honour of holding the ranks of Acting Vice-Admiral, Lieutenant-General and Air Marshal simultaneously.

Under his leadership the Commandos conducted many raids on enemy positions which were calculated to cause as much damage to the Germans' morale as to their material.

The assault on Dieppe was the least successful of these attacks, but chief criticism was levelled at the conception of the raid, and not at the training or the tactics of the Commandos and troops who took part.

In the summer of 1943 Mountbatten was appointed Supreme Commander in South-East Asia. Here, faced with an appalling task, he conducted a campaign which Sir Winston described as "the greatest collision which has yet taken place on land with Japan."

The front he took charge of was second in length only to the Russian and the Japanese enemy had, in the space of a few weeks, the previous year, moved across East Asia irresistibly to threaten the very heart of the Indian Empire.

In early 1944 the Japanese mounted an offensive designed to take them to New Delhi. By the end of the year Mountbatten had halted their drive and was hitting back tremendously hard.

As the victorious British forces advanced, more than 100,000 Japanese were killed and many others were starved out. Rangoon was freed in May 1945 and the Burma Road to China re-opened.

Preparations for the invasion of Malaysia and the recapture of Singapore were halted when

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In 1956 he was appointed Colonel of the Life Guards and Colonel Commandant of the Royal Marines. He was also appointed to the ancient office of Governor of the Isle of Wight.

Lord Mountbatten undertook in 1965 a mission to Commonwealth countries to examine immigrant control problems, but he was not permitted to pursue his inquiries in Pakistan.

At the end of 1966 his report on prison escapes and security was widely welcomed as sound.

Biographical series on television

He emerged in 1969 as a TV personality of some stature with his biographical series, "The Life and Times of Lord Mountbatten."

He belonged to a host of societies including the Royal Life Saving Society, the Institute of Electronic and Radio Engineers, the Society of Film and Television Arts, the Mercers, Vintners' and Grocers' Companies, and the Inner Magic Circle.

He helped raise large sums of money for children's charities, and was made a "gold card life member" of the Variety Club last March.

Countess Mountbatten, whom Lord Mountbatten married in 1922, died in Borneo in 1960 while on a tour as Superintendent-in-Chief of the St John Ambulance Brigade.

She was formerly the Hon. Edwina Ashley, a daughter of the late Lord Mount Temple.

The elder of Lord Mountbatten's daughters, Lady Patricia, married Lord Brabourne in 1946. Lady Pamela married Mr David Hicks in 1960.

Lady Brabourne is heir, by special remainder, to the earldom.

Other Obituaries—P10



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● Right: Lord and Lady Mountbatten, as Viceroy and Vicereine of India, walking down a hill near Peshawar during a mass demonstration by Moslems in 1947.



● As commander of the ill-fated destroyer Kelly, Captain Mountbatten was sent to France to bring back

the Duke and Duchess of Windsor nine days after the outbreak of war in 1939. On the left is Major Randolph

Churchill, son of Sir Winston Churchill. The warship was sunk by a dive bomber at the Battle of Crete in 1941.

Mountbatten reached peak of career in fulfilling Labour's pledge to quit India

HOW BRITISH RAJ ENDED IN 5 MONTHS

By JOHN BULLOCH, Diplomatic Staff

EARL MOUNTBATTEN reached the peak of his remarkable career in 1947, when he was appointed Viceroy of India. And the mission he was given ensured that his role would be unique: he was to hand over the vast sub-continent to people living there.

It was Clement Attlee, the quiet Artillery major of the First World War who became Labour Prime Minister at the end of the Second, who had the inspiration to pick the flamboyant, aristocratic Mountbatten as the man to carry out the Labour party's pledges on India.

Effort after effort to reconcile the differences between the Hindus and Moslems of India had been made and all had failed.

Then, in February, 1947, the British Government announced "their definite intention to take the necessary steps to effect the transference of power into Indian hands by a date not later than June, 1948."

Britain was quitting India, come what may. And Mountbatten, created a Viscount when he took over the Viceroyalty from Earl Wavell, was the man to see the Government's intention was achieved in the set period.

Lord Mountbatten took up his post on March 25, which gave him just 14 months to carry out his mandate. In the event, he did it in less than five.

But it was not done without the controversy which he always attracted. Gone was the old style of the remote Viceroy, the unseen embodiment of a far-off power. Instead, Lord Mountbatten instituted a series of daily meetings with community leaders, and made it plain that he would and could take decisions.

He said openly what none had earlier dared to say—that as it was clear the politicians in India could not agree, then partition would have to come.

'Playing fair'

The Moslems felt themselves at a disadvantage, so Lord Mountbatten leant over backwards to be fair to them, though the Hindu leaders believed they had his sympathy.

It was a mark of his charm as well as his diplomacy that Mr Jinnah could say he was convinced that the Viceroy "was determined to play fair."

It was not only in the interminable discussions in Delhi that Lord Mountbatten played a major role. As trouble built up to the carnage which followed the handing over of power on Aug. 15, he used his personal standing to try to avert the worst incidents.

Taking Lady Edwina with him, the Viceroy flew to the Frontier and Punjab Provinces, scenes of communal riots, murders and arson.

In Peshawar, a crowd of 60,000 Moslem militants was preparing to attack Congress supporters. With Edwina at his side, the Viceroy climbed on to a truck, and made an impromptu speech. The tension was broken and trouble averted.

Back in London, men who had always regarded Lord Mountbatten as one of their own turned on him. Churchill spoke of "the clattering down of the British Empire, with all its glories." And as the ominous

run-up to independence went on, his warnings of "preparations for civil war" began to sound increasingly realistic.

But neither opposition at home, disorders in the Provinces, nor bickering among the politicians, could stop Lord Mountbatten.

For years afterwards his role was debated, and it seemed clear that he had been the one home, disorders in the Province, to emphasise the need for speed, the precipitate rush to hand over power.

The interests of the Princely States, many with long traditional and treaty relationships with Britain, were put aside.

Problems which could not be solved were shelved; and day after day the Viceroy argued, cajoled, and forced through his policies in a way more reminiscent of political bargaining in smoke-filled rooms than an orderly hand over of constitutional power.

On Aug. 15, the objective was achieved. But the Union Jack came fluttering down against a background of a mass migration of millions of people, bloodshed on a vast scale, famine and lawlessness.

Viscount Mountbatten was made an Earl, and became the first Governor-General of independent India. He had carried out the instructions of the Government in London brilliantly, and in only a third of the time allowed.

INDIA'S TRIBUTE

'A place of honour'

OUR DELHI CORRESPONDENT writes: Mr Reddy, the Indian President, and Mr Charan Singh, the Prime Minister, joined Mrs Gandhi in paying high tribute to Lord Mountbatten.

All three expressed shock at the tragic death of Britain's last Viceroy and free India's first Head of State.

And in a message to the Queen, President Reddy said: "That he was invited to be independent India's first Governor-General was a tribute to Lord Mountbatten's statesmanship, sagacity and wisdom. He will always occupy a place of honour among India's friends and well wishers."

Mrs Gandhi, who came in close personal touch with the Mountbatten family during his tenure as Viceroy and Governor General, described him as "an extraordinary personality and dedicated friend of India."

Lord and Lady Mountbatten made an instant impact in India, first by befriending Mrs Gandhi's father, Jawaharlal Nehru, just before the war ended in South East Asia, and later by appearing beside Mahatma Gandhi, whom millions of Indians revered, at his daily prayer meetings in New Delhi.



Earl Mountbatten, last Viceroy of India, and Lady Mountbatten with Mahatma Gandhi in New Delhi in March, 1947.

Special licence ensures that arms and crests are passed on

By JOHN ARMSTRONG, Estates Correspondent

ALTHOUGH Earl Mountbatten's peerage passes to his elder daughter, Lady Brabourne, 55, a good deal of his personal wealth is expected to go to her eldest son Mr Norton Knatchbull who will eventually inherit the title.

Mr Knatchbull, 31, has been in partnership with his grandfather at the home farm on the family's Broadlands estate at Romsey, Hants.

Wady Brabourne, wife of the seventh Baron, who lives at Ashford, Kent, is heir to the title by special remainder because her father had no sons.

The Queen issued a special licence to this effect in 1966 to ensure that the arms, crests and supporters passed on with the peerage on Earl Mountbatten's death.

Mr Knatchbull is already a man of considerable means. He stands to benefit from the substantial trust funds which belong to his grandmother, the late Countess Mountbatten, and passed to his mother. In October he is due to marry Miss

Penelope Eastwood, daughter of Major Reginald Eastwood.

Earl Mountbatten, who was very much a family man, is also expected to have provided legacies or trust sums from his personal estate for the three grandchildren of his younger daughter, Lady Pamela Hicks, as well as the six surviving grandchildren of his elder daughter, Lady Brabourne.

Wife's wealth

Earl Mountbatten was not originally a wealthy man but he married one of the richest heiresses in the country, Edwina Ashley, whose father was Lord Mount Temple. Her grandfather, Sir Ernest Cassal, the German banker, friend of King Edward VII, left £7,533,000 when he died in 1921.

Broadlands, the family seat and its 6,000-acre estate, came to Lady Mountbatten from her father in the form of a trust. Today the property, which has outstanding timber and Test fishing and a number of let

farms, must be worth an estimated £9 million.

Lady Mountbatten, who died in 1960, left only £478,618 net in personal assets but a life interest in the Ernest Cassal fortune could easily have brought her estate to £1.5 million.

In her will she left certain effects to her husband and the rest of her property including settled funds on various trusts for him and her daughters.

Royal honeymoon

One of the saddest features of yesterday's news is that Earl Mountbatten did not live to see the result of the opening of his country seat, Broadlands, to the public for the first time this season.

The Queen and Prince Philip spent part of their honeymoon there and Earl Mountbatten's idea was that the public should share with him the history, architecture and the outstanding contents of this 18th-century stately home.

Death duty exemption was given to Broadlands' art treasures as works of national importance when Lady Mountbatten died. The collection includes paintings by Van Dyck, Lely, Rubens, Tintoretto and Canaletto, and this exemption will undoubtedly continue under Transfer Tax arrangements.

The Mountbatten Irish home, gothic-style Classiebawn Castle, County Sligo, where the family spent many holidays and where they were staying when yesterday's tragedy occurred, was left to Earl Mountbatten by his wife. It was built by Lord Palmerston and has 11 bedrooms and four reception rooms.

EVER WIPED YOUR HANDS ON A RAG FULL OF SWART?

Royal Family grieve for 'Uncle Dickie'

post on March 23, when he was just 14 months to carry out his mandate. In the event, he did it in less than five.

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Royal Family grieve for 'Uncle Dickie'

LORD MOUNTBATTEN, "Uncle Dickie" to the Royal Family, will be doubly mourned by them—as a third cousin of the Queen and as the uncle of Prince Philip.

All three were direct descendants of Queen Victoria, Lord Mountbatten as her great-grandson, and the Queen and Prince Philip as great-great grandchildren.

For Prince Charles there will be extra sadness in the death of Lord Mountbatten's grandson, Nicholas, who with his injured twin Timothy was the Prince's godson.

The Mountbatten title goes to Lord Mountbatten's elder daughter, Lady Brabourne, 55, in hospital herself, who accedes tragically to the title on the death not only of her father but of one of her sons.

By her marriage in 1946 to Baron Brabourne, she had five sons, the eldest of whom, Norton Louis Philip, 31, a godson of Prince Philip, becomes heir to the Mountbatten as well as the Brabourne title.

There are two daughters also of the marriage.

Seventh baron

The Brabourne title, created in 1880, is comparatively new, but the family had been baronets since 1641 before acquiring the barony. Lord Brabourne is both the seventh baron and the 16th baronet.

Educated at Eton and Oxford, he served as a Captain in the Coldstream Guards during the 1939-45 War and was wounded in South-East Asia. He served as ADC to Field Marshal Viscount Slim and succeeded to the title on the death of his brother, killed when serving in the Grenadier Guards in 1943.

He is much more than a traditional aristocrat. He is justly famed as the producer of

a string of films which have included "Harry Black," "Sink the Bismarck," "Romeo and Juliet," "Up the Junction," "Tales of Beatrix Potter," "Murder on the Orient Express," and "Death on the Nile."

Last year he became a director of Thames Television and he is also known as a television producer. He is a vice-president of the Royal Society of Arts, a governor of Gordonstoun School and a member of the Council of the University of Kent.

He has a country estate near Ashford, Kent.

The new Countess Mountbatten plays a role in her own right at their country home, as Justice of the Peace and as a Deputy Lieutenant for Kent. During the 1939-45 War the young Lady Patricia Mountbatten served in the WRNS, and like her husband was in South-East Asia.

Engaged to marry

Her son and heir, Norton, now takes the title of Lord Romsey. Lord Mountbatten had already made provision for his country home at Broadlands, Romsey, to pass to him.

The new heir, who was educated at Gordonstoun and the University of Kent, has followed his father into his profession and is working as an assistant producer for Thames Television.

In March he became engaged to Miss Penelope Eastwood, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Reginald Eastwood, of Palma, Majorca.

Their wedding was planned at Romsey in October, with Prince Charles as best man.

Lord Mountbatten leaves nine grandchildren—four boys and two girls in the Brabourne family and a boy and two girls, children of his second daughter, Pamela, and her husband, Mr David Hicks, the designer.

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TEHERAN AGREES TO TRUCE IN KURDISH REVOLT

By CHRISTOPHER de KRETZER in Teheran

IRAN'S ruling Moslem clergy agreed to proclaim a ceasefire in the Kurdish revolt last night after a five-man delegation from Kurdistan met the Ayatollah Taleghani in Teheran.

A direct appeal was made by the tribesmen to Ayatollah Khomeini, Iran's religious leader to avoid any further bloodshed. The Islamic Council of Mahabad, in an open letter, urged him not to listen to "misinformation" about the Kurdish situation.

VIET TROOPS AIRLIFTED BY RUSSIANS

By IAN WARD in Singapore

RUSSIAN military aircraft have begun a large-scale airlift of Vietnamese troops into the north-western sector of Cambodia to prepare for a major dry season offensive against Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed a clandestine radio broadcast by the ousted Pol Pot régime.

The radio station claimed that a Vietnamese intelligence agent identified as Tay Binh Hoy had been captured and had provided information about the Vietnamese built up.

He said the Russians were moving the Vietnamese troops and equipment in a round the clock operation.

The Vietnamese led forces of the new Cambodian Government are expected to launch concerted drives against the Khmer Rouge in the north east and south east of the country within the next few weeks.

Cuba summit

Meanwhile two Khmer Rouge leaders were reported in Bangkok to have crossed from Cambodia into Thailand to make their way to the Non-Aligned Summit in Havana, Cuba, next month.

The two officials were named as the ousted Cambodian President Khieu Samphan and Ieng Sary, Deputy Prime Minister, who were said to have left Bangkok for an undisclosed destination several days ago.

TYPHOON KILLS 115 S. KOREANS

At least 115 people were killed and 35,000 made homeless at the weekend when Typhoon Judy struck a wide area of South Korea. In some areas, 20 inches of rain fell in three hours.

Damage to property and crops, mainly rice, is estimated at more than £18 million. The rains destroyed 1,253 houses, flooded a further 7,293 buildings, and washed away 57 bridges, claimed Hapdong news agency in Seoul.—Reuters.

PIRANHA PERIL

By Our New York Staff

The authorities in Miami, Florida, are increasingly anxious of reports of growing numbers of piranha fish in the state's freshwater lakes and streams. The fish can strip a human to the bone in minutes.



Kurdish rebels firing at a government forces helicopter gunship on the outskirts of Saqqez, the day before the rebels were ousted from the town.

POLISARIO ATTACK ON MOROCCO

By MICHAEL FIELD in Paris

THE Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas seeking to set up an independent republic in Moroccan-administered Western Sahara have carried out their threat to carry operations into Morocco itself.

They made a surprise attack last Friday on the garrison at Lebouir, near Zag and Polisario Front sources put the Moroccan losses in killed and wounded at nearly 800.

Confirming the clash, Morocco said that the Moroccan commanding officer seemed to have been taken by surprise and did not offer proper resistance. This "allowed the enemy to occupy the locality and stay there throughout Aug. 24."

Heavy fighting

Reinforcements sent to Lebouir dislodged the enemy after heavy fighting, Morocco added.

In Algiers the "Saharan Defence Minister" said that 230 Moroccans were killed in the relief force sent to the beleaguered garrison, and that 92 Moroccan soldiers, including several officers, were taken prisoner, while 166 "Saharan citizens" were liberated.

Even if the casualty figures may be doubted, this was probably the bloodiest battle since the Western Sahara war began in 1975.

East German build-up on S. Africa borders

By RAY KENNEDY in Johannesburg

AN EAST GERMAN "Africa corps" is being built up "virtually week by week" on South Africa's borders and between 4,000 and 6,000 East bloc troops were now deployed in Mozambique and Angola, said Mr H. J. Coetzee, South Africa's Deputy Minister of Defence.

"They are being used in supportive roles, especially when it comes to sophisticated armaments," he said in a weekend interview on South African television.

Mr Coetzee regarded the East Germans as a greater threat to South Africa than the presence of an estimated 20,000 Cubans in Angola. The East Germans' knowledge of sophisticated armaments was important for Angola and Mozambique.

One advantage for the East Germans over Cubans, he said, was the similarity of their language to Afrikaans, indicating concern among South Africa's Defence chiefs that the limited guerrilla warfare now mainly confined to the Angolan-South West African border might intensify with the direct involvement of East German units.

There have been reports that East German paratroopers were stationed in southern Angola, but it had been generally believed that their role was to bolster the Cubans and Marxist Angolan Popular



Movement (M.P.L.A.) forces who have been embroiled since 1975 in a bush war with the rebel Total Liberation Movement (Unita) forces of Jonas Savimbi.

It now appears, according to the South Africans, that the East Germans are preparing to adopt a more offensive role and involve themselves in the guerrilla war being waged by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) against South African troops in the northern areas of South West Africa (Namibia).

News Round-up

KGB 'BARS TRIPS BY SCIENTISTS'

By Our Washington Staff

FIVE American Nobel prize-winning scientists have accused the Soviet KGB of preventing distinguished academics from visiting the United States.

Top Russian scientists were "disqualified on political grounds," and instead people with mediocre scientific credentials were sent.

The claim was made in the American journal *Science*, by Dr Christian Anfinsen, Prof. Paul Flory, Dr Owen Chamberlain, Dr Max Delbruck and Dr Edwin McMillan.

The five were among a group of 2,400 American scientists who pledged last March to refuse academic co-operation with Russia after two dissidents, physicist Yuri Orlov, and mathematician Anatoly Scharansky, were jailed.

Briton killed in Kampala

Among 10 people murdered in Kampala in the past few days was a naturalised Briton, Wittek Popiel, 47, professor of chemistry at Makerere University. He was shot in his home, and his wife Evelyn's face was slashed. Their three children were unharmed.

The British High Commission in Uganda has warned Britons not to take jobs there because of the crime wave. Homes are attacked and looted by uniformed criminals.

[Editorial Comment—P12]

KGB seize papers

Two Soviet public prosecutors and a KGB major spent eight hours on Sunday searching the home of Dr Viktor Nekipelov, 51, the pharmacist who is a member of the Moscow Helsinki human rights monitoring group. They confiscated 117 documents, including papers on psychiatric abuses and rights for the physically disabled.

Oil threat to birds

A storm in the Gulf of Mexico threatened yesterday to push oil from a runaway Mexican oil well over containment booms protecting bays along the Texas coast. Scientists said the oil could wreak ecological havoc among rare whooping cranes, various other wildlife and commercially-important sea life.

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Thai troops die

Landmines planted by Communist guerrillas in northern Thailand killed 37 Thai soldiers and wounded 48 others, Thai military sources said yesterday.

Vance 'threatened to quit' during Middle East row

By HUGH DAVIES in Washington

BEHIND-THE-SCENES disarray in the Carter Administration over Middle East strategy was highlighted yesterday with a report that Mr Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State, had recently threatened to resign.

According to *Time* magazine, Mr Vance rebelled after hearing in March that President Carter's choice of Mr Robert Strauss, 60, as special Middle East envoy.

Mr Carter — said to be worried he would not be re-elected next year if the peace negotiations collapsed — is reported even to have considered Dr Kissinger, President Nixon's Secretary of State, for the post.

But he plumped for Mr Strauss, a straight-talking Texan lawyer responsible for trade negotiations. "I don't care whether Cy likes it or not," he is reported to have said.

Apparently "Cy" did not like it at all—especially when he heard that Mr Strauss was insisting he would report directly to Mr Carter. "A terrible blow to the State Department," Mr Vance is said to have called it.

A peace-making session at the home of Vice-President Mondale is said to have gone on until 3 a.m., with Mr Vance finally agreeing to the appointment, although for months afterwards he was "dispirited."

Carter 'startled'

Mr Carter is said to have wanted a senior official primarily responsible for dealing with Mr Begin, Israeli Prime Minister, and President Sadat of Egypt. Both were constantly turning to him, and he did not think Mr Vance could control the volatile situation.

But even Mr Carter, the magazine said, was startled when Mr Strauss presented a long memorandum declaring he would not work directly either for Mr Vance or for Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the National Security Adviser, with whom Mr Vance has been at odds.

Mr Strauss, now a close ally of Mr Carter and his Georgian aides, has returned angrily from a fruitless Middle East trip aimed at getting support for an American initiative in the United Nations on the Palestinian issue.

He told reporters he had embarked on his mission with sealed orders, apparently written by Dr Brzezinski, which gave him no room to manoeuvre.

So again, it is said, Vice-President Mondale was called in to patch up differences.

Asked about Mr Vance's reported resignation threat, Mr Hodding Carter, State Department spokesman, said last night: "I have known the Secretary for three years, and I have never known him put forward that kind of threat."

SYRIA AND IRAQ STILL AT ODDS

By Our Diplomatic Staff

President Assad of Syria admitted yesterday that the much-vaunted union between his country and neighbouring Iraq had got nowhere. "We have in fact achieved nothing until now," he said.

'LEBANON RAIDS HURT ISRAEL'

By MAIER ASHER in Jerusalem

ISRAEL'S policy of hard-hitting raids in the Lebanon will be reviewed following opposition from Gen Dayan, Foreign Minister, who fears that Israel's image is being damaged.

Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, agreed yesterday to hold a comprehensive discussion of the situation in southern Lebanon.

Gen. Dayan said it would be advisable to evaluate the damage which the PLO was sustaining and the damage done to Israel's image abroad by the operations.

"If a balance can be struck between the need to strike at the PLO and the need to harm Lebanese non-combatants as rarely as possible Israel would be better off all round," said Gen. Dayan.

He understood the military advantage of keeping the PLO on the run, but in view of the attitude abroad the policy should be re-examined.

Hidden armed bases

Mr Begin did not seem to share Gen. Dayan's idea of abandoning the policy of raids against the Palestinian bases in Lebanon. "Who knows how many Jewish lives have been saved by the Israeli raids which are keeping the PLO armed groups away from the Israeli border settlements," he said.

Gen. Dayan's opposition to the Israeli raids is understandable in light of American protests that Israeli is using American arms in the raids in Lebanon where civilian casualties were being caused.

Gen. Weitzman, the Defence Minister, rejected Gen. Dayan's contention. He said the PLO was hiding its armed bases in the midst of civilian settlements including depots set up inside monasteries.

Sources close to Mr Begin and Gen. Weitzman said the raids should be continued. Israeli sources disclosed yesterday that the Palestinians in southern Lebanon had deployed some 100 guns of various calibres in the sector of the river Litani.

The Palestinians' artillery included 150mm Soviet pieces with a range of some 16 miles, 155mm guns and lately a considerable number of American-made 105mm artillery pieces which the PLO is said to have captured from the Lebanese regular army stores.

FRENCH PRICES UP

By Our Staff Correspondent in Paris

The French retail price index rose by 1.3 per cent, in July, the National Statistics Institute announced last night. It brings annual price inflation in France over the last three months to 13.5 per cent, and the actual increase over the last 12 months to 10.3 per cent.

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known drivers against the Khmer Rouge in the north and south east of the country within the next few weeks.

Cuba summit

Meanwhile two Khmer Rouge leaders were reported in Bangkok to have crossed from Cambodia into Thailand to make their way to the Non-Aligned Summit in Havana, Cuba, next month.

The two officials were named as the ousted Cambodian President Khieu Samphan and Ieng Sary, Deputy Prime Minister, who were said to have left Bangkok for an undisclosed destination several days ago.

TYPHOON KILLS

115 S. KOREANS

At least 115 people were killed and 35,000 made homeless at the weekend when Typhoon Judy struck a wide area of South Korea. In some areas, 20 inches of rain fell in three hours.

Damage to property and crops, mainly rice, is estimated at more than £18 million. The rains destroyed 1,253 houses, flooded a further 7,293 buildings, and washed away 57 bridges, claimed Hapdong news agency in Seoul—Reuter.

PIRANHA PERIL

By Our New York Staff

The authorities in Miami, Florida, are increasingly anxious of reports of growing numbers of piranha fish in the state's freshwater lakes and streams. The fish can strip a human to the bone in minutes.



from Mahabad, was waiting for reinforcements before attacking the town.

The Kurds said it included about 100 tanks, armoured personnel carriers, long-range artillery and supply lorries.

The column's advance was held up on Sunday when villagers in Solduz formed a human wall across the main road.

An ultimatum from the army to move or be crushed was heeded yesterday morning.

But as the column tried to leave Solduz, it came under attack from the Kurds who claimed to have knocked out four tanks and an army lorry.

300 held in Saqqez

With the fall of the Kurdish town of Saqqez on Saturday, after four days of heavy fighting, Government forces were holding about 300 captives in the military garrison, awaiting the arrival of the Ayatollah Khomeini, known as Iran's "Judge Blood."

The captives include several military men who were reported to have refused to fight the Kurds.

ATTACK ON East German build-up on S. Africa borders

By MICHAEL FIELD in Paris

THE Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas seeking to set up an independent republic in Moroccan-administered Western Sahara have carried out their threat to carry operations into Morocco itself.

They made a surprise attack last Friday on the garrison at Lebouairat, near Zag and Polisario forces, and the garrison was wounded at nearly 800.

Confirming the clash, Morocco said that the Moroccan commanding officer seemed to have been taken by surprise and did not offer proper resistance. This "allowed the enemy to occupy the locality and stay there throughout Aug. 24."

Heavy fighting

Reinforcements sent to Lebouairat dislodged the enemy after heavy fighting, Morocco added.

In Algiers the "Saharan Defence Minister" said that 230 Moroccans were killed in the relief force sent to the beleaguered garrison, and that 92 Moroccan soldiers, including several officers, were taken prisoner, while 166 "Saharan citizens" were liberated.

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Please reply to: 8, Bolton Street, Piccadilly, London, W.1. Ref: RJ/FP.

A FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT to control sales ledger section & final or world communication Co.—City, suit exp. PEI ACCA, 21/27 yrs, seeking career scope. c. £6,700 neg. & early review. Ring Gase, 01-257 5131, Per. Cites.

MANAGEMENT accountant for annual budgets, monthly board reporting, etc./international electronics grp.—W.I. Suit experienced PEI ICMA, 22/27 yrs, wanting career scope. c. £6,000 neg. Ring Gase 01-437 4131, Per. Cites.

A PARTIAL ACCT, £6,000 + Commission (Industry) All areas, 831 7622. Clayman Any.

ACCOUNTS CAREERS to £6,000. Credit Control, Bookkeeping, Payroll, Royalties, Insurance & BADDECH (AGENCY).

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ACCOUNTANCY PEOPLE. Asst./Perm. ROSEN ASSOC. (Staff Cites), 01-629 2216.

ACCOUNTANTS. — Temporary accountants for commercial and professional organisations. Tel. London 01-606 3156 or Birmingham 021-643 1663.

A ASST ACCT £4,500 + All areas, 831 7622. Clayman Any.

ARTICLE CLERKS / Transfers to £4,500. — Pembroke & Pembroke (Appointments Services), 01-232 9011.

AUDIT MANAGER/ESS £9,000 Plus car! Partnership prospect! JPA (Rec. Cons) 950 4567.

AUDIT SENIORS. Temporary £4-£5 per hour (London). Permanent to £8,000. Tel. John Walker, ACA/21-235 0425, Accountants (Consultants).

BOOKKEEPER (m/f) to T.B. required by an established retail and development export business of hatters. Reliability and experience sought in age group 30-35 years. Located in Savoy Row area. Manual accounts, good conditions, salary to £5,500. Write B.M.10786 Daily Telegraph, E.C.4.

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ACCOUNTANTS AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF Broad prospects exist in the short term when you take control of the accounting function in this subsid of a worldwide insurance Co. — watch the good record — your future will be financially assured. Ref: (B215) Accountancy Personnel (Avis), 65, Moorgate, EC2. 01-628 8785.

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As a specialist you need our specialist service to help you make the right career move in commerce, industry or the professions. Telephone us now.

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ACCOUNTANCY PEOPLE. Asst./Perm. ROSEN ASSOC. (Staff Cites), 01-629 2216.

ACCOUNTANTS. — Temporary accountants for commercial and professional organisations. Tel. London 01-606 3156 or Birmingham 021-643 1663.

A ASST ACCT £4,500 + All areas, 831 7622. Clayman Any.

ARTICLE CLERKS / Transfers to £4,500. — Pembroke & Pembroke (Appointments Services), 01-232 9011.

AUDIT MANAGER/ESS £9,000 Plus car

PRIME MINISTER

Lord Mountbatten's funeral is fixed for Wednesday 5 September.

A contingency plan for Lord Mountbatten's funeral was drawn up in 1974, and the then Prime Minister (Sir Harold Wilson) approved this allocation of seats for the political parties:-

<u>Government</u>	16 (8 Ministers and wives/husbands)
<u>Opposition</u>	4
<u>Liberals</u>	4

I have spoken to Sir Eric Penn in the Lord Chamberlain's Office, and I am sure they would wish to meet your wishes over any variations to this within, I expect, a fairly tight problem of working out the seating.

Separately, 4 seats were provisionally allocated to the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker, and their wives, representing Parliament.

The Lord Chancellor is due to be in Belfast on 5 September, to swear in a new Judge, the first time a Lord Chancellor has visited Northern Ireland to do this. Lord Hailsham feels that this is a most important commitment, and one which Lord Mountbatten might have wished him to carry out in the circumstances. If you agree, he would like to be in Belfast that morning.

If Lord Hailsham is away, his Parliamentary seat might naturally be taken by Lord Soames as Lord President. ✓

Would you wish the following Ministers to have seats:-

Yourself ✓	2
Home Secretary ✓	2
Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary ✓	2

Chancellor of the Exchequer ✓ 2
Secretary of State for Defence ✓ 2
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland ✓ 2
Chancellor of the Duchy ✓ 1
Secretary of State for Industry¹ (Lord Mountbatten
had close connections with, in particular
the electronics industry).

See 21 Nov for Ireland

The allocation of 4 seats each to the Opposition and the Liberals
seems badly lop-sided, as I imagine Mr Callaghan, Mr Healey and Mr Roy
Mason at least would all wish and expect to attend, whereas the
Liberals could surely be limited to Mr Steel. *perhaps 6 instead* Shall I ask for 6 seats
for the Labour Party, and 2 for the Liberals? *2 for minor parties*

I have consulted Mr Stowe, who advises against asking for seats
for any of the Ulster Unionists, or for the other minority non-national
Parties.

Would you wish one of the Private Secretaries to accompany you
next Wednesday? - *Not if D. T. comes.*

CVP

*With respect, I think we
shall have to offer a seat
to the leader of the U.U.'s
and the S.N.P.*

28 August 1979

Copied to Secretary of the Cabinet.



889113 PO SW G
299992 PO TS G
DL165 1445 LONDON T 122

PRIME MINISTER 10 DOWNING STREET
SW1

MAY I EXPRESS TO HER MAJESTYS GOVERNMENT MY PROFOUND PERSONAL SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA AND MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY STOP HAVING HAD THE HONOUR TO RECEIVE HIM AS MY GUEST AND THE PLEASURE OF MEETING HIM MANY TIMES I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED BY HIS PASSING IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF SUCH HORRIFIC VIOLENCE . I AM SADDENED TOO BY THE TRAGIC DEATHS OF THE SOLDIERS WHO DIED IN AMBUSH . PERPETRATORS OF SUCH EVIL DEEDS ARE NOT WORTHY OF THE NAME OF CATHOLIC OR CHRISTIAN STOP THIS ACTION CAN ONLY MOVE ALL GOOD PEOPLE TO PRAY EARNESTLY TO GOD THE SOURCE OF PEACE AND HOPE

ARCHBISHOP BRUNO HEIM APOSTOLIC DELEGATE 54 PARKSIDE
WIMBLEDON-SW19

COL 10 SW1 54 SW19

299992 PO TS G
889113 PO SW G

SUBJECT

NNNN

ZCZC CLH915 LBG222 FLB3458 OLN926

GBXX CY N000 062

OSLO TLX 62/59 28 1236

ETAT

HER EXCELLENCY MARGARET THATCHER PRIME MINISTER
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
LONDONS W1

DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THE TRAGIC NEWS OF THE BRUTAL AND MEANINGLESS
ASSASSINATION OF LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN A GREAT LEADER IN PEACE
AND WAR I EXTEND TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE
NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT

ODVAR NORDLI PRIME MINISTER OF NORWAY

COL ETAT

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T89F/79T

AUG 28 14 18 '79

LHS 258

~~INT 110~~

P.O. INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHS
LONDON
28 AUG. 79
S.W.1 AREA OFFICE BROADWAY
ENQUIRIES DIAL 165

SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T89E/79T

Aug 28 18 01 '79

NNNN

ZCZC CLH087 LBE551 GLB3043 MAA379 T172 CFA043

GBXX CK IWPL 096

PORT LOUIS MAURITIUS 96/93 28 1545

LHS 287

ETAT

H E MRS MARGARET THATCHER

PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM 10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1

I HAVE LEARNT WITH DEPP SORROW THE TRAGIC DEATH OF LORD MAOUNTBATTEN
STOP THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF MAURITIUS JOIN ME IN CONVEYING
TO YOU THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OUR

COL ETAT

PAGE 2/43

MOST SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING AWAY OF THIS GREAT
SOLDIER STATESMAN WHOSE CAREER WILL ILLUMINE THE PAGES OF HISTORY
STOP PLEASE ALSO TRANSMIT TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY THE EXPRESSION OF
OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

SIR SATCAM BOOLELL ACTING PRIME MINISTER

SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T89D/79

Aug 28 18 18 '79

NNNN

ZCZC CLH099 JGA557 PLN57

GBXX CY SAPR 094

PRETORIA TLX 94/93 28 1810

LHS 294

ETAT

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER M P
PRIME MINISTER FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY
AND MINISTER FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE
10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1

NEWS OF THE TRAGIC DEATH OF EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA HAS COME
AS A GREAT SHOCK TO US AND ON BEHALF OF MYSELF

COL 10 DOWNING SW1

PLN57 ETAT THE RIGHT P2/43

AND THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA I CONVEY TO YOU
THE GOVERNMENT AND YOUR PEOPLE OUR FEELING OF SADNESS AND SYMPATHY
WITH YOU AT THE PASSING OF THIS GREAT FIGURE

P W BOTHA PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SUBJECT

889113 PO SW G
22931 GNTC G
N909 CLA320
G BY DKCN 061
KOESENHAVN 61/58 28 1502

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T89c/795



ETAT PRIORITE
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER
PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM 10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON.S.W.1

ON BEHALF ON THE DANISH GOVERNMENT I WISH TO EXPRESS
MY OWN AND THE GOVERNMENT'S MOST SINCERE CONDOLENES
TO THE GRIEVOUS LOSS WHICH THE BRITISH PEOPLE HAS
SUFFERED THROUGH THE TRAGIC DEMISE OF THE

COL 10 SW.1.

CLA320 THE RIGH HONOURABLE PAGE 2/8

EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA
ANKER JOERGENSEN PRIME MINISTER

L
22931 GNTC G
889113 PO SW G

NNNN

ZCZC CLH910 BRU191

GBXX CO BEBR 105

BRUSSEL TLX 105/100 28 1310 P1/50

THE RIGHT HON MARGARET THATCHER
PRIME MINISTER
NO 10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON(SW1)



LHS 237

THE COMMISSION HAS HEARD WITH SHOCK AND REVULSION OF THE
TERRIBLE ACT WHICH KILLED LORD MOUNTBATTEN. THE DEATH OF A PERSON
OF
SUCH HISTORIC DISTINCTION IS A LOSS TO THE WHOLE WORLD.
ON MY OWN BEHALF - AS ONE

COL 10 SW1 -

BRU191 THATCHER P2/50

WHO HAD THE VIVID PLEASURE OF WORKING WITH LORD MOUNTBATTEN IN
SEVERAL FIELDS - AND ON BEHALF OF MY COLLEAGUES IN THE COMMISSION,
I SEND OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE ROYAL
FAMILY. TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO THE BRITISH
PEOPLE.

ROY JENKINS,

PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
COMEUR

*Italian Embassy,
14, Three Kings Yard,
London, W.1.*

6683

28th August, 1979

Dear Brian,

I would be most grateful if you could kindly convey to the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher the enclosed message of condolence on yesterday's tragic events addressed to her by the President of the Italian Council of Ministers, Signor Francesco Cossiga. You will also find a rough translation.

Sincerely Yours

*Ludovico Incisa
di Camerana*

Ludovico Incisa di Camerana
Minister

Mr. B.G. Cartledge,
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

SUBJECT

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T89A/79

ROUGH TRANSLATION

(2)

Italian Embassy.

14, Three Kings Yard,

London, W.1.

cc. FCO 31/8

K4.

Prime Minister

Phm.

MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE RT. HON MARGARET THATCHER, M.P.
BY THE ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER

I have been deeply shocked by the violent events which have stricken Great Britain, causing the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten, such an eminent statesman and soldier, and the loss of so many young lives.

With sadness and dismay, I wish to express, in the name of the Italian Government and personally, the most heartfelt condolences together with our feelings of sympathy in the grief of Her Majesty The Queen and of Great Britain.

Francesco Cossiga

amb.

T89A/195

*Ambasciata d'Italia,
14, Three Kings Yard,
London, W.1.*

MESSAGGIO INDIRIZZATO AL PRIMO MINISTRO DEL REGNO UNITO,
RT. HON. MARGARET THATCHER DALL'ON. PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO
DEI MINISTRI, FRANCESCO COSSIGA.

=====

La giornata di violenza che ha funestato la Gran Bretagna, causando la tragica scomparsa di Lord Mountbatten, eminente figura di statista e di soldato, e la perdita di tante giovani vite, mi ha profondamente colpito.

Con sentimenti di sgomento e di commozione, desidero manifestarLe, a nome del Governo italiano e mio personale, le più sincere condoglianze e le espressioni della più viva partecipazione al lutto di Sua Maestà Britannica e della Gran Bretagna.

Francesco Cossiga

GR 140

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON 281830Z AUG 79

TO ROUTINE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 2451 OF 28 AUGUST 1979

SS TO PM

(2)

Prime Minister

Ans 30/8

MY TELNO 2436: DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

STATE DEPT. ISSUED THE FOLLOWING FURTHER STATEMENT AT TODAY'S
NOON PRESS BRIEFING:-
BEGINS.

FURTHER TO MY STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF
LORD MOUNTBATTEN WE NOW UNDERSTAND THAT BOTH THE PROVISIONAL
IRA AND THE IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (A SPLINTER LEFTIST
GROUP) HAVE CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY. THE PROVISIONAL IRA HAS
ALSO CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATH BY AMBUSH BOMBING
OF AT LEAST 18 SOLDIERS AND ONE CIVILIAN IN NORTHERN IRELAND
YESTERDAY. I REITERATE IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THE CONDEMNATION
OF THE U S GOVERNMENT OF ALL GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS WHICH
SEEK THEIR GOALS IN NORTHERN IRELAND THROUGH VIOLENCE. WE KNOW
THE OVER-WHELMING MAJORITY OF PEOPLE OF IRELAND, BOTH NORTH
AND SOUTH, ABHOR VIOLENCE AND WE AGAIN URGE ALL AMERICANS TO
REFRAIN FROM SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN VIOLENCE.
ENDS.

ROBINSON

FILES

PCD

RID

NEWS-D

NAMD

AJ

NORTHERN IRELAND

GR 200

UNCLASSIFIED

FM WASHINGTON 281720Z AUG 79

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 2449 OF 28 AUGUST 1979,

INFO NIO (L), NIO (B), DUBLIN, BIS AND CG NEW YORK, BOSTON

DEATH OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. SPEAKER O'NEILL ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TODAY, 28 AUGUST, BEGINS:

"I AM SHOCKED AND DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE I R A TERRORIST BOMBING YESTERDAY WHICH RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN, MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY AND 17 BRITISH SOLDIERS. THESE REPREHENSIBLE ACTS WERE CARRIED OUT BY TERRORISTS WHO PURPORT TO BE ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF IRISH NATIONALISM. THESE TRAGIC DEATHS CANNOT BE CONDONED ON POLITICAL GROUNDS, AND THE PERPETRATORS MUST BE CONDEMNED IN THE STRONGEST TERMS. WE IRISH AMERICANS MUST REJECT THOSE WHO SEEK TO UNITE IRELAND THROUGH THE USE OF VIOLENCE, AND RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS OF NORTHERN IRELAND"

ENDS.

ROBINSON.

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

FILES

PCD

RID

NAMD

NEWS D

OLD

CABINET OFFICE

COPIES TO
PS/BUCKINGHAM PALACE

ant

Top copy: 2

Ireland, Situation

Prime Minister R 2

LC, Lmt 29/8

Lmt 29/8

Mr. Alexander
NO 10 Downing
Street



h.h.
Ant
31/8

With the compliments of

I. H. MAY

PROTOCOL AND CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT

We have already
sunt a copy to
Earl Mountbatten's
family

JCC
30/8

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

LONDON, SW1A 2AH

Communications on this subject should be addressed to:

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.

Our Reference

Your Reference



HIGH COMMISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA.

13 HYDE PARK GARDENS
LONDON W2 2LU

Telephone: 01-262 1841 (7 lines) Ext
Telegrams: Lankacom, London
Telex: 25844

Date 28 August 1979

The High Commission of Sri Lanka in Britain presents its compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and has the honour to state that the following messages have been received from His Excellency Mr J R Jayewardene, President of Sri Lanka and the Hon R Premadasa, MP., Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.

From His Excellency Mr J R Jayewardene, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka-----

" I was deeply grieved to hear of the sudden demise in tragic circumstances of Lord Louis Mountbatten. Admiral Mountbatten is remembered with affection in Sri Lanka for the unobtrusive but important role he played during the Second World War as Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in South East Asia, which had its headquarters in Sri Lanka. He is also remembered in Sri Lanka for his contribution as Viceroy of India towards the smooth transfer of power in our neighbouring Sub-Continent.

Please convey to the members of the bereaved family my deep sympathy on their sad loss. "

From Honourable R Premadasa, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka-----

" Please convey to the members of the bereaved family my sincere sympathy on the tragic death of Lord Louis Mountbatten who, as Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in South East Asia during the Second World War, won the affection and respect of the people of Sri Lanka. "

The High Commission of Sri Lanka has the honour further to request that the texts of these messages kindly be conveyed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to the members of the bereaved family of the late The Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

contd...2... . . .

: 2 :

The High Commission of Sri Lanka avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurances of its highest consideration.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London SW1A 2AL

cc FCO
NIO

HS

28 August 1979

I am writing to thank you for your letter of 28 August, with which you enclosed a message to the Prime Minister from the Taoiseach conveying his deep sympathy on the murder of Lord Mountbatten and his companions in Irish waters.

I have of course brought the Taoiseach's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

B.G. CARTLEDGE

KAL

His Excellency Dr. Eamon Kennedy

CC Fco
NLO

AMBASÁD NA hÉIREANN, LONDAIN.



IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

17 Grosvenor Place
London SW1X 7HR

28th August 1979

Dear Private Secretary

I should be most grateful if you would convey to the Prime Minister the enclosed message from the Taoiseach, Mr John Lynch, T.D.

Yours sincerely,

Eamon Kennedy

Eamon Kennedy
Ambassador

The Principal Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister
No. 10 Downing Street
London S.W.1.



IRISH EMBASSY, LONDON.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 85/79T

Pm Minister

Print - 25/8

Subject

To the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher M.P., Prime Minister

I was horrified and saddened at the news of the murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, his grandson, Nicholas Brabourne, and his employee, Paul Maxwell, at the hands of the Provisional IRA who have admitted responsibility.

This subversive organisation has brought death or sorrow to many thousands of innocent people and shame to all true Irish men and women.

I extend to you and to your colleagues in Government my deepest sympathy.

John Lynch
Taoiseach

John Lynch

out.

DER BOTSCHAFTER
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND

London, August 28th, 1979

Dear Prime Minister,

I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed telegramme from Herr Helmut Schmidt, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

A courtesy translation is also attached.

I wish to add how deeply sorry I feel personally for the death of Earl Mountbatten and of all the others who lost their lives in yesterday's tragic events.

yours sincerely

H. Ruete

Hans H. Ruete

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP
Her Majesty's Prime Minister and
First Lord of the Treasury
L o n d o n

T 88/791

Courtesy Translation*Subject*

Telegramme

q. F.C.O.

from Herr Helmut Schmidt, Chancellor of
the Federal Republic of Germany

to The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister

*Prime Minister***PRIME MINISTER'S****PERSONAL MESSAGE****SERIAL No.** *T 88/791**f.5. Amt**Amt 29/8*

It was with great dismay that I learned about yesterday's
violent death of Earl Mountbatten and several other
citizens of your country. I wish to express to you,
Prime Minister, my deeply felt sympathy.

May I ask you to convey my condolences to Her Majesty
The Queen as well as to the families of the other victims.

Helmut Schmidt
Chancellor of the
Federal Republic of Germany

amt

T 88/79T

Telegramm

von Herrn Helmut Schmidt, Bundeskanzler der
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

an The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP, Prime Minister

Der gewaltsame Tod von Earl Mountbatten und mehreren
anderen Bürgern Ihres Landes am gestrigen Tag hat
mich tief betroffen. Ich spreche Ihnen, Prime Minister,
mein tief empfundenes Beileid aus.

Ich bitte Sie, meine Anteilnahme auch Ihrer Majestät
der Königin sowie den Familien der anderen Opfer zu
übermitteln.

Helmut Schmidt
Bundeskanzler der
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
LONDRES

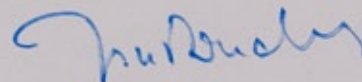
28th August, 1979.

Dear Mr. Cartledge,

I have just received the enclosed message of condolences addressed by M. Raymond Barre to Mrs Thatcher, following the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten. I should be grateful if you would transmit it to the Prime Minister.

I express also, if I may, my personal condolences.

Yours sincerely,



Jean Max Bouchaud
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

B.G. Cartledge, Esq.,
Private Secretary to
the Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
LONDRES

U.F.C.O.

Prime Minister

29/8

TEXTE DU TELEGRAMME ADRESSE PAR M. RAYMOND BARRE
A MRS. THATCHER

Madame Thatcher
Premier Ministre du Royaume-Uni
Londres.

J'ai appris avec une profonde émotion la tragique nouvelle de l'assassinat de Lord Louis Mountbatten.

Ce crime odieux, atteignant l'une des figures les plus prestigieuses du Royaume-Uni, est vivement ressenti par les Français, qui ne peuvent oublier la part prise par ce grand soldat à la lutte des nations démocratiques pour leur liberté.

Dans ce moment douloureux pour le Royaume-Uni et les Etats qui lui sont associés de par le monde, je tiens à vous exprimer, Madame le Premier Ministre, ma sympathie très émue et vous prie de transmettre à la Famille Royale les condoléances attristées du Gouvernement français.

Raymond Barre.

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF A MESSAGE FROM
MONSIEUR BARRE, TO THE PRIME MINISTER

I have heard with deep emotion the tragic news of the murder of Lord Louis Mountbatten.

This odious crime against one of the most distinguished personalities of the United Kingdom is keenly felt by French people who have not forgotten the part taken by this great soldier in the struggle of the democratic nations for their freedom.

At this moment of sadness for the United Kingdom and the states which are associated with it throughout the world, I wish to express to you, Madam Prime Minister, my deep sympathy and ask you to transmit to the Royal Family the condolences of the French Government.

Ls. Barbé

mt.

PRIME MINISTER

Deaths ✓

Silent copies: Miss Stephens
Mr Vile (Sir John Hunt's
Office)

Lord Mountbatten's funeral is fixed for Wednesday 5 September.

A contingency plan for Lord Mountbatten's funeral was drawn up in 1974, and the then Prime Minister (Sir Harold Wilson) approved this allocation of seats for the political parties:-

<u>Government</u>	16 (8 Ministers and wives/husbands)
<u>Opposition</u>	4
<u>Liberals</u>	4

I have spoken to Sir Eric Penn in the Lord Chamberlain's Office, and I am sure they would wish to meet your wishes over any variations to this within, I expect, a fairly tight problem of working out the seating.

Separately, 4 seats were provisionally allocated to the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker, and their wives, representing Parliament.

The Lord Chancellor is due to be in Belfast on 5 September, to swear in a new Judge, the first time a Lord Chancellor has visited Northern Ireland to do this. Lord Hailsham feels that this is a most important commitment, and one which Lord Mountbatten might have wished him to carry out in the circumstances. If you agree, he would like to be in Belfast that morning.

If Lord Hailsham is away, his Parliamentary seat might naturally be taken by Lord Soames as Lord President.

Would you wish the following Ministers to have seats:-

Yourself

Home Secretary

Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary

Chancellor of the Exchequer
Secretary of State for Defence
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
Chancellor of the Duchy
Secretary of State for Industry (Lord Mountbatten
had close connections with, in particular
the electronics industry).

The allocation of 4 seats each to the Opposition and the Liberals seems badly lop-sided, as I imagine Mr Callaghan, Mr Healey and Mr Roy Mason at least would all wish and expect to attend, whereas the Liberals could surely be limited to Mr Steel. Shall I ask for 8 seats for the Labour Party, and 2 for the Liberals?

I have consulted Mr Stowe, who advises against asking for seats for any of the Ulster Unionists, or for the other minority non-national Parties.

Would you wish one of the Private Secretaries to accompany you next Wednesday?

C. V. PETERSON

28 August 1979



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 August 1979

I am writing on the Prime Minister's behalf to thank you for your letter of 28 August, in which you conveyed to her a message from the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Robert Muldoon, expressing his sympathy and that of the New Zealand Government on Lord Mountbatten's tragic death.

I have brought Mr. Muldoon's message to the Prime Minister's immediate attention.

B. G. CARTLEDGE

KRB

His Excellency the Honourable L.W. Gandar

CC FCO

HS

28 August 1979

I am writing on the Prime Minister's behalf to thank you for your letter of 27 August, in which you conveyed a message to her from the Prime Minister of India, Shri Charan Singh, expressing his condolences on the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten.

I am of course bringing Shri Charan Singh's message to the Prime Minister's attention, together with your own kind expression of sympathy which I know the Prime Minister will deeply appreciate.

B.G. CARTLEDGE

Dr. I.P. Singh

file

28 August 1979

I am writing on the Prime Minister's behalf to thank you for your letter of 28 August, with which you enclosed the text of a message to her from President Carter about the tragic death of Lord Mountbatten.

I have of course brought President Carter's message to the Prime Minister's attention.

BGC

488 ✓

The Honourable Edward J. Streator



Circulate.
SM
29/8

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,

ST JAMES'S PALACE, S.W.1.

By Command of The Queen, the Court will wear Mourning for the late Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma from Tuesday, 28th August 1979 until and including the day of the Funeral, the date of which will be announced later.

28th August 1979

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T87/19T



NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

NEW ZEALAND HOUSE · HAYMARKET · LONDON SW1Y 4TQ

Telephone: 01-930 8422 Telex: 24368

From the High Commissioner
H.E. The Hon L.W. Gandar

cc FRO 2
T 87/19T
Prime Minister

By 28/8

As per

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON S W 1.

28 August 1979

me

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

I wish to pass to you the message received from the Prime Minister of New Zealand regarding the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten. The message reads:

We were profoundly shocked to learn of the murder of Earl Mountbatten. I have conveyed to his family the condolences and sympathy of the Government and people of New Zealand on this tragic and senseless killing. Earl Mountbatten gave fully of his talents in a long and distinguished career of service in war and peacetime both to his country and the Commonwealth.

R. D. Muldoon

To these sentiments are added our own from the New Zealand High Commission.

Yours sincerely
L.W. Gandar.



CEFO
2
EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

London

Prime Minister

August 28, 1979

No mention

of "murder"

No mention of "terrorism".

— GLE
24x

me

Dear Prime Minister:

I have been asked to deliver the attached message from President Carter, which was received at the Embassy for transmission to you.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Streator

Edward J. Streator
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

Enclosure

The Rt. Hon Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London, SW1A 2AL

28 AUG 1979



a. FLO. T 86/79 T.
PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T86/79 T
August 28, 1979

Dear Mrs. Thatcher:

It is with profound sadness that Rosalynn and I learned of the tragic death of Earl Mountbatten. He was an extraordinarily wise and courageous statesman and soldier. The American people remember especially his great service to our common cause during World War II. We share your great sense of loss.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

THE SHOOTING BOX,
BURNHAM THORPE,
KINGS LYNN,
NORFOLK,
PE31 8HW.

BURNHAM MARKET 359

27.8.79

L.A. 2
Prime Minister
Received today.
You
30/8

Dear Prime Minister,

I've just heard the
terrible news of Dickie's death -
and of Nicky's, his grandson and
my god-child. Its too awful.

Yours ever,
Sue.

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN

The following statement was issued this afternoon by the Prime Minister on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

"We have learned with grief and shock of the death of Lord Mountbatten and of those with him. Our country has suffered a great loss.

Lord Mountbatten's service to Great Britain spans three reigns and two world wars. His life ran like a golden thread of inspiration and service through the history of our country in this century. He was one of our greatest commanders and a great seaman.

His service as the pioneer and Chief of Combined Operations, and as Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia made a contribution without parallel to the defeat of tyranny in the Second World War.

But both in war and in peace Lord Mountbatten did more than his duty. He did not simply follow the rules: he made them. It was his genius as a man of ideas and his readiness to challenge established custom which so endeared him not only to the Royal Navy, but to the whole British people.

His life was a sequence of service to peoples the world over. To his courage in battle he added the moral courage of the statesman. He was dedicated to building a better world for and through the young people of all nations.

He was a legend in his lifetime. His death leaves a gap which can never be filled.

The British people give thanks for his life and grieve at his passing."

10 Downing Street,
London, SW1. 01-930 4433



Dr. I. P. Singh,
Acting High Commissioner,

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T84A/195

No. LON/POL/123/2/79

INDIA HOUSE,

ALDWYCH,

LONDON, W.C.2.

August 27, 1979

Prime Minister

6/24
2/18

Dear Madam Prime Minister,

I have the honour to convey the following message from Shri Charan Singh, Prime Minister of India, to you:

"I am deeply grieved to learn of the death of Lord Mountbatten in tragic circumstances. His distinguished record of service for his motherland, which took him to the highest ranks in the Royal Navy and the Defence Forces will find a place in the history of United Kingdom. Here in India he will be remembered as a Viceroy and a Governor-General, who at the time of India's independence gave us abundantly of his wisdom and goodwill. It was in recognition of our affection for him, respect for his impartiality and regard for his concern for India's freedom, that the entire nation readily accepted Lord Mountbatten as first Governor-General of independent India. His drive and vigour helped in the difficult period after our independence. In his demise, India has lost a great friend. We are particularly sad that his projected visit to India at the end of this year cannot take place.

Would request you to convey our sincere condolences to the members of his family".

2. I would also like to take this opportunity to convey the deep condolences of myself and my colleagues in India House at this tragic occurrence.

3. With assurances of my highest consideration,

Yours sincerely,

IP Singh

(I. P. Singh)

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister of United Kingdom,
10, Downing Street,
London, SW1A 2AL.



LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	INITIAL RELEVANT BOX
PIECE/ITEM <i>13</i> [ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY]	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER A FOI EXEMPTION <i>Letter from</i> <i>Prime Minister to The Queen dated 27 August 1979</i>	<i>SW</i>
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
TEMPORARILY RETAINED	
MISSING ON TRANSFER	
MISSING	
NUMBER NOT USED	
DATE <i>4 September 2009</i>	
SIGNED <i>Wayland</i>	

Instructions for completion of dummy card

Use the card for one piece/item number only

Use black crayon to complete the card

Enter the lettercode, series and piece/item references clearly (eg

LETTERCODE/SERIES	GAB 168
PIECE/ITEM	49
(ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY)	

Enter initials in the box adjacent to the description that applies to the document being replaced by the dummy card.

If the document is closed under a FOI exemption, enter the number of years closed. See the TNA guidance *Preparation of records for transfer to The National Archives*, section 18.2

The box described as "Missing" is for TNA use only (it will apply to a document that is not in its proper place after it has been transferred to TNA)

Sign and date the card.

STATEMENT BY THE RT. HON. GEORGE YOUNGER, MP:
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND

Mr. George Younger, MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, on hearing of the death today of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, has sent a telegram of condolence to Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mr. Younger has also issued the following statement:

"All Scotland will share my feeling of grief over the death of Lord Mountbatten, one of our nation's greatest men. He demonstrated outstanding courage and wisdom, both under fire and when faced with crucial decisions as a Supreme Commander in some of the most critical periods of the Second World War. In peacetime, too, he came to be known as one of our wisest leaders, while retaining that warmth and charm which earned him the love and respect of the whole nation and of countless people overseas.

"It is particularly sad that the life of one of our greatest servants should end in such a tragic way."

Not issued, on PM's instructions.

MAJ 27/
VII

27 August 1979

*This is a copy. The original
has been extracted and
closed, 40 years.*

MR. CARTLEDGE

IRISH EVENTS

Action Outstanding (in no particular order)

Prime Minister wants next-of-kin addresses for the soldiers killed. She has been told that Mr. Atkins usually writes himself.

Funeral and associated arrangements to be confirmed.

* ~

~ *

Court mourning until the day of the funeral (inclusive). Half-mourning tomorrow (Tuesday) and on the day of the funeral. Arrangements being made for RAF VC10 to collect the body. Irish State Pathologist examining the body tonight and current prospect is that it should be released after tomorrow morning.

*Passages deleted and closed, 40 years,
under a FOI Exemption.*

*D. Wayland
4 September 2009*

If available, the Prime Minister would like Mr. Pym to join her 1100 meeting.

27 August 1979

MR. CARTLEDGE

IRISH EVENTS

Information passed on

I spoke to Robin Haydon after he had been to Sligo. He had been in touch with the hospital administrator and matron, and Lady Pamela Hicks and the Duke of Abercorn. I reported the latest information on the four casualties in hospital, and arrangements made with Haydon's assistance to get Abercorn across the border in order to bring back surgeons from the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

I have been in touch with the Lord Chamberlain's Office although no firm arrangements could be made at this stage.

I have been in touch with Martin Vile, and informed him of tentative plans for Lord Mountbatten's funeral and associated arrangements.

FCO asked to cable Sir D. Tebbit in Canberra to request discreet surveillance of Carol Thatcher in view of IRA Australian activity reported at the time of the Prime Minister's visit. This was cleared with the Home Office first.

Statement on the death of Lord Mountbatten, and the first statement on terrorist incidents, issued from 10 Downing Street - texts attached.

/Contd.

27 August 1979

*This is a copy. The original has
been extracted and closed, 40 years.*

I told the Prime Minister of the message from the Taoiseach.
Mr. Haydon reports that this was delayed because of inadequate
communications with Mr. Lynch on holiday in Portugal. The
Irish are now seeking maximum publicity for it. Text now
in the attached folder - not transmitted to Chequers.

*Passage deleted and closed, 40 years,
under a FOI Exemption.*

A. Wayland

4 September 2009

27 August 1979

MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER FROM THE TAOISEACH

T85/79T

"I was horrified and saddened at the news of the murder of Earl Mountbatten of Burma, his grandson Nicholas Brabourne and his employee, Paul Maxwell, at the hands of the provisional IRA who have admitted responsibility.

This subversive organisation has brought death and sorrow to many thousands of innocent people and shame to all true Irish men and women.

I extend to you and to your colleagues in Government my deepest sympathy.

John Lynch, Taoiseach"

27 August 1979

Cd NIO
Cd FCO

TO LORD CARRINGTON

ON BEHALF OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND MYSELF WISH TO EXPRESS TO YOU OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE TRAGIC DISAPPEARANCE OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN.

IN ADDITION TO ALL HIS ACHIEVEMENTS WE DO NOT FORGET THE ROLE HE PLAYED IN OUR COMMON CAUSE DURING THE WAR=

ROBERT VAES
BELGIAN AMBASSADOR

24961 PRDRME G

22823 BELAM G

NO DISTRIBUTION

PS (2)

HO PCD

HO WED

HO NEWS D

~~PS~~/No 10 Downing St

PS/Buckingham Palace

RC

LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN

The following statement was issued this afternoon by the Prime Minister on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

"We have learned with grief and shock of the death of Lord Mountbatten and of those with him. Our country has suffered a great loss.

Lord Mountbatten's service to Great Britain spans three reigns and two world wars. His life ran like a golden thread of inspiration and service through the history of our country in this century. He was one of our greatest commanders and a great seaman.

His service as the pioneer and Chief of Combined Operations, and as Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia made a contribution without parallel to the defeat of tyranny in the Second World War.

But both in war and in peace Lord Mountbatten did more than his duty. He did not simply follow the rules: he made them. It was his genius as a man of ideas and his readiness to challenge established custom which so endeared him not only to the Royal Navy, but to the whole British people.

His life was a sequence of service to peoples the world over. To his courage in battle he added the moral courage of the statesman. He was dedicated to building a better world for and through the young people of all nations.

He was a legend in his lifetime. His death leaves a gap which can never be filled.

The British people give thanks for his life and grieve at his passing."

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE RT. HON. MARGARET THATCHER, MP

"By their actions today, the terrorists have added yet another infamous page to their catalogue of atrocity and cowardice. If reports of their involvement in the death of Lord Mountbatten prove true, they will earn the condemnation and contempt of people of goodwill everywhere. By the same token, the senseless murder of ~~one~~ members of the security forces has reinforced the repugnance felt for those who seek to advance their political ends by these evil means. The Government will spare no effort to ensure that those responsible for these and for all other acts of terrorism are brought to justice. The people of the United Kingdom will wage the war against terrorism with relentless determination until it is won."

10 Downing Street
London SW1
27 August 1979

DUBFO 009/27

ZZ FCO

GRPS 120

RESTRICTED

FM DUBLIN 271840Z AUGUST 79

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 216 OF 27 AUGUST

MY TELNOS 213 AND 214 : LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. I HAVE NOW VISITED THE INJURED IN SLIGO HOSPITAL. THEY ARE ALL SERIOUSLY ILL, BUT IT IS LADY BRABOURNE WHOSE CONDITION IS CAUSING THE GREATEST CONCERN. SHE HAS SERIOUS CHEST AND HEAD INJURIES. EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO GET SURGEONS FROM BELFAST FOR HER.

2. THE GARDA COMMISSIONER MCLAUGHLIN WHO IS NOW IN SLIGO HAS SAID THAT THE THREE BODIES CAN BE RELEASED ONCE THE STATE PATHOLOGIST HAS EXAMINED THEM. MCLAUGHLIN EXPECTS THIS EXAMINATION TO BE COMPLETED SOME TIME TOMORROW MORNING.

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE, NO 10, HOME OFFICE AND NIO BELFAST

HAYDON

NNNN

SENT AT 27/1840Z JAW

RECD AT 27/1840Z WRR

(20)

PS/Buckingham Palace
PS/NO 10 Downing St
D/O Home Office

Hd P+CD

Hd News D

Hd R ID

Hd Consular D

Hd MACD

RC

PS

PS/WPS

PS/A-Hurd

PS/A-Blaker

PS/A-Luce

PS/PWS

N-Fly

N-Ferguson

Sn A-Burth

PS/A-Rutter

PS/A-Hurd

FLASH

+30

ADVANCE COPY

ERE GOES

1452

PS
PS/LPS
PS/POS
PS/Mr Hurd
PS/Mr Blaker
PS/Mr Ince
PS/Mr Riddell
Sir A Duff
Mr Leguissan
Mr Legg

DUBFO 008/27

ZZ FCO

GRPS 60

UNCLASSIFIED

FM DUBLIN 271445Z AUGUST 79

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 215 OF 27 AUGUST

Hd of PC D
Hd of RID
Hd of MHE D
Hd of Cons D
Hd of News D
D/O Home Office
P/S Buckingham Palace
P/S No 10 Downing St

MY TELNOS 213 AND 214 : LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. THE IRISH INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER HAS RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM THE IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (I.N.L.A.) CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPLOSION. RC

2. THE INDEPENDENT HAS NOT YET RELEASED THE TEXT OF THE CLAIM.

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE, NO. 10, HOME OFFICE AND NIO BELFAST

HAYDON

FLASH

K
GOT TWO SHORT TELS FOR U PAL
OK TO GA PS E ? KK

FLASH

GOT ANOTHER ZZ BEFORE I SEND THOSE TWO PAL

RGR GA

DUBFO 005/27

ZZ FCO

GRPS 100

UNCLASSIFIED

F M DUBLIN 271410Z AUGUST 79

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 214 OF 27 AUGUST

MY TELNO 213 : LORD MOUNTBATTEN

1. THE GARDA INFORMED US AT 1500 THAT THEY HAVE NOW RECOVERED THREE BODIES. THOSE OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN, PAUL MAXWELL, THE BOATMAN, AND NICHOLAS KNATCHBULL (NOT TIMOTHY KNATCHBULL AS WE WERE PREVIOUSLY TOLD).

2. LORD AND LADY BRABOURNE, DOREEN LADY BRABOURNE AND TIMOTHY KNATCHBULL ARE IN HOSPITAL IN SLIGO BUT THEY ARE REPORTED TO BE NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED.

3. THE GARDA HAVE AS YET NO DETAILS OF THE EXPLOSION.

4. NO CLAIMS HAVE SO FAR BEEN MADE.

FCO PLEASE PASS ADVACE TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE, NO. 10,
HOME OFFICE, NIO BELFAST.

HAYDON

PS

PS/LPS

PS/PUS

(PC D
Sir A Duff
News
RIP

ADVISED COPY

Cons D

RC—

PS/Buckingham

Palace

PS/10 Downing St.

D/O Home Office

PS/Mr Riddle PS/Mr Blaker

PS/Mr Hurd PS/Mr Figg

PS/Mr Hume PS/Mr Argus

FLASH

No 10 Downing St

ADVANCE COPY

FLASH

GRPS 90
UNCLASSIFIED
FM DUBLIN 271230Z AUGUST 79
TO FLASH FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 213 OF 27 AUGUST

EXPLOSION ON LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S BOAT

1. AT 1305 WE WERE INFORMED BY THE GARDA THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN EXPLOSION ON LORD MOUNTBATTEN'S BOAT IN SLIGO. LORD MOUNTBATTEN IS MISSING. THE BOATMAN AND TIMOTHY KNATCHBULL ONE OF LORD BRABOURNE'S SONS ARE BOTH DEAD AND THEIR BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED. LORD AND LADY BRABOURNE HAVE BEEN RESCUED. THEY ARE INJURED. WE ASSUME YOU WILL CONTACT THE PALACE.

HAYDON

FCO/WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION
PCD

Paul Boatman Irish Independent
Nicholas Knatchbull INLA.
Ld Mtatten wdn't give text.
Lad + Lady + Doreen
Ldy Brayborn
Garda Timothy Knatchbull head injury.

Embassy people
Gave about 4 pm

END

Filmed at the National
Archives (TNA) in London

February 2010