

6/3/84



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7th March 1984

Dear Governor-in-Council,


Sir Neil Marten came to see me at the House of Commons yesterday, bringing with him the present which you and your colleagues had most generously given him to bring to me: an exquisite example of St Helena's handicraft skills. It was a revelation to me that so beautiful a product could have reached me from an oceanic outpost of our country so remote from the traditional centres of such skills. Thank you for helping me to visualise your splendid island and community so vividly and agreeably.

Sir Neil has brought back a report of his visit, which I have asked him to present to Mr Timothy Raison, the Minister for Overseas Development in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Mr Raison will be giving close attention to Sir Neil's report, and I have asked him to keep me in touch with how he judges that his recommendations be best made or implemented.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

J. D. Massingham Esq

cc Timothy Raison



Dear Governor-in-Council



THE CASTLE  
ST. HELENA  
SOUTH ATLANTIC

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher PC MP  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

3 February 1984

Dear Prime Minister

We the elected Members of the Legislative Council of St Helena have greatly welcomed the visit to our island of the Rt Hon Sir Neil Marten as the personal representative of the Minister for Overseas Development.

Such is our total dependence upon the Mother Country that we are conscious of our making ever greater demands upon her resources. Yet the people we represent want to be as self-sufficient as possible; and, given our skills and aptitude, we believe that we are capable of accomplishing much more to help ourselves. But we do need imaginative but not lavish assistance.

Sir Neil's visit has thus provided an opportunity to explain both our problems and our aspirations on a political level for the first time. In this the 150th year of our becoming a Crown Colony, we see this as a hopeful sign.

Finally, we ask you Prime Minister to accept the accompanying example of our Island's handicraft as a token of our good wishes to you personally.

Arthur H. Anwar

~~John~~

Alvin

Harry B. Hegg

~~John~~

Tommy George

John George

Neil

Thomas

Eric D. Benjamin

Arthur J. Young

Governor-in-  
Council

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher PC MP  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

Pat Thomas

Ken Governor-in-Council

6/3/84



House of Commons

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 6th March  
 1984

13.2.84

Dear Michael,

I have just returned from a visit to St Helena on behalf of HM.G. - (see H. of L. debate 6 Dec 83 col. 1057.) The Legislative Council gave me a present for the Prime Minister which they insisted I should present to her personally.

I will ring you later this week to see if a moment can be found (provided she is willing to receive me for this purpose.) It won't take long.

0295-78319

Yrs.

Neil