

OPS

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE



SERIAL No. T.183/84..... 10 DOWNING STREET

file to  
cc fro

Subject filed in Foreign A2  
THE PRIME MINISTER  
law of the Sea

cc Subject  
Halter

2 November 1984

Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for your message about the UN Law of the Sea Convention which your High Commissioner in London passed to me on 24 October.

Your urged that the UK should sign the Convention before the final date for signature and draw attention to the advantages offered by it in areas other than seabed mining. We recognise that much in the Convention is helpful, particularly its provisions on navigation, pollution and the continental shelf. As you noted, however, the regime presently envisaged for seabed mining causes us considerable concern.

We are aware of the significance of the final date for signautre, and we are reviewing the work carried out by the Preparatory Commission during the last two years and its implications for the future. I shall take fully into account the points which you have made and will let you know once we have taken a decision.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Dalrymple

The Honourable David Lange, M.P.