

The Ambassador of Switzerland

SUBTEXT
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16-18 Montagu Place
London W1H 2BQ

20th March 1985

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T49A/85**

Dear Prime Minister,

I have been instructed by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Federal Councillor Kurt Furgler, to pass on to you the following message:

"Dear Prime Minister,

"In the personal talks I had with you and members of your Cabinet I became aware of the great understanding and deep mutual respect governing the longstanding and friendly relations between our two countries. Our close cooperation in the fields of trade, finance and industry has been highly beneficial to both nations.

"Please allow me to draw your attention to a matter which is of great concern to the Swiss Government. I understand that a decision will be taken in the near future on the purchase of a new basic jet trainer for the Royal Air Force. The PC 9 offered by the Swiss firm

./. .

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Pilatus Ltd and British Aerospace is not only one of the best jet trainers at present available on the world market but has been extensively tested, has proved its cost effectiveness and is immediately available.

"A decision in favour of the PC 9 would be of benefit to the industries of both countries. The PC 9 cooperation project is estimated to involve over 1000 jobs in Great Britain, and the manufacturer of the PC 9 engine is planning to establish a maintenance facility in Scotland. Moreover, there are good prospects for this joint venture in third countries. In addition, the PC 9 turboprop and the Hawk advanced jet trainer would be complementary to each other. I am convinced that this cooperation in a high technology area would have a strong and welcome impact on the aircraft industries of both countries.

"I trust that you will be able to give favourable consideration to the PC 9 cooperation project. I shall, of course, be at your disposal if you wish to discuss this matter with me by telephone.

"I hope to meet you again soon and remain, with kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

Kurt Furgler "

Federal Councillor Furgler's letter will be forwarded to you in due course.

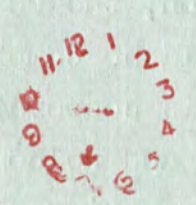
Yours sincerely,
Pictet
(François-Charles Pictet)



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20 MAR 1955



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Fifth paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Sixth paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Seventh paragraph of faint, illegible text.

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KURT FURGLER
PRÉSIDENT DE LA CONFÉDÉRATION

T49 A/85
Already 20/3/85
received See below
Telegraphically.
NSM.

Dear Prime Minister

CDP
25/3.

In the personal talks I had with you and members of your Cabinet I became aware of the great understanding and deep mutual respect governing the long-standing and friendly relations between our two countries. Our close cooperation in the fields of trade, finance and industry has been highly beneficial to both nations.

Please allow me to draw your attention to a matter which is of great concern to the Swiss government. I understand that a decision will be taken in the near future on the purchase of a new basic jet trainer for the Royal Air Force. The PC-9 offered by the Swiss firm Pilatus Ltd and British Aerospace is not only one of the best jet trainers at present available on the world market, but has been extensively tested, has proved its cost effectiveness and is immediately available.

A decision in favour of the PC-9 would be of benefit to the industries of both countries. The PC-9 cooper-

To the
Right Honourable Mrs Margaret Thatcher, MP
10, Downing Street
London SW 1
Great Britain

ation project is estimated to involve over 1000 jobs in Great Britain, and the manufacturer of the PC-9 engines is planning to establish a maintenance facility in Scotland. Moreover, there are good prospects for this joint venture in third countries. In addition, the PC-9 turbo prop and the HAWK advanced jet trainer would be complementary to each other. I am convinced that this cooperation in high technology would have a strong and welcome impact on the aircraft industries of both countries.

I trust that you will be able to give favourable consideration to the PC-9 cooperation project. I shall, of course, be at your disposal if you wish to discuss this matter with me by telephone.

I hope to meet you again soon and I remain,

with kind personal regards

Yours

Hans Frenkel

Berne, March 20, 1985



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

Prime Minister

You will want to
note the Policy Unit's advice,
strongly in favour of the Tucans,
immediately behind the Cabinet
office brief.

Also the message received
from the President of Switzerland,
pressing the case for the PC9

C.D.P.
2073.

Also the latest minute from Mr. Hereltine -
flag B