

LORD ROTHSCHILD

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7th December, 1984

Confidential

*a. Miss Dreer ✓ 10/12*

*Dear Robin,*

When we spoke on the telephone you referred to early January as a possible time for me to see the Prime Minister and I said that was no good because I was going on my summer holiday. On looking at my diary, however, I note that I go on Wednesday January 2 and that I have nothing on Tuesday January 1. Might sometime on January 1 be a starter? As I said, it makes no difference to me where. Alternatively, I leave the country for my holiday at 3.15 p. m. on Wednesday January 2. Might any time before that suit?

May I turn to another matter? She is, I think, going away on or about December 19 and will, presumably, not be in London (if you succeed in your plans) until after Christmas. Bearing in mind, as you told me, that the security arrangements at No. 10 are primarily and rightly concerned with her, would it not be a good idea for the objects to be packed up in tissue paper and put in some container "in the safe" until she returns? If you think this a good idea, I can easily send my private secretary round with the container and some tissue paper.

Please let me know.

*Yours  
Victor*



file

DA



12/12  
a Miss Drever

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

10 December 1984

Many thanks for your letter of 7 December. I am afraid that neither 1 nor 2 January would be good dates for a meeting from the Prime Minister's point of view. But, contrary to what you will no doubt suspect, I am not simply trying to put you off; and I will certainly arrange as early a date as you can conveniently manage after you return from your holiday.

As regards your second paragraph, in these days of timed devices, the security at 10 Downing Street has to be as rigorous when the Prime Minister is away as when she is here. I had considered taking the steps which you mention, but do not think that they would greatly increase the security of the objects concerned. And to move them would attract attention to them.

E. E. R. BUTLER

The Lord Rothschild GBE GM FRS



NBP  
RT  
7/12

MR. TURNBULL

Lord Rothschild and his Review of  
Local Government Finance

I have spoken to Lord Rothschild and to Mr. Waldegrave about the points in Lord Rothschild's letter to 29 November.

As regards a meeting with the Prime Minister, I have told Lord Rothschild that I would recommend against fitting it in next week. I said that we could offer 7 or 8 January, but Lord Rothschild said that he would be away for three weeks from 2 January. We will need, therefore, to fix up the meeting after he returns. I suggest some time in the week beginning 4 February so that we have a little time for preparation. I told Mr. Waldegrave about this and his view was that it was better not to try to have the meeting next week. I said that we would consult him nearer the time on who should be invited to the meeting other than himself, and particularly whether it would be helpful to invite Mr. Baker.

On Lord Rothschild's letter to local authorities, Lord Rothschild denied having been given advice by Mr. Waldegrave. Mr. Waldegrave tells me, on the contrary, that he told Lord Rothschild that, while there might be some ructions in Parliament and elsewhere, his personal advice to Lord Rothschild was to go ahead and send the letter on his own responsibility. Mr. Waldegrave told me that he would get in touch with Lord Rothschild again this weekend to pass on this message. He would also make it clear that the Prime Minister had not been consulted on this point.

F.R.B.

7 December, 1984