



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

18 January 1982

*Dear John,*

I know that the Ministry of Defence and in particular the Royal Air Force made considerable efforts in these last few days to be ready with advice and help in the operation to recover Mark and his party from the Sahara. In the end it was not necessary to call on the direct assistance of the Royal Air Force but I am nonetheless most grateful for the planning and the various dispositions which were made. Would you please pass my thanks to all concerned.

*Yours ever*

*Robert*

The Rt. Hon. John Nott, M.P.