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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

15 April, 1982.

New George.

I am very sorry that I have not replied sooner to your letter of 31 March, about a possible commemorative presentation for President Reagan when he visits the Palace of Westminster. As you will understand, other preoccupations have overshadowed planning for that visit.

Sir Robin Cooke's suggestion is indeed an interesting one. But, in my own experience, commemorative medallions do not perhaps offer the personal touch which can be provided by some other mementos. After giving the matter some thought, my own conclusion is that we should not pursue this particular idea, although I am certainly grateful to Sir Robin for putting it forward. When you and I discussed President Reagan's visit earlier, we touched upon another idea, that of a photographic record of the President's visit to the Palace of Westminster. I am attracted by that proposal, and I should like to see it pursued. I understand that our offices have been in touch about it, and that your people will raise the matter within the Committee that is now working on the Palace of Westminster aspects of the President's visit.

Tous eve.

The Rt. Hon. George Thomas, M.P.

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