



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 August 1912

Dear Sister Wilfred,

You very kindly wrote to me during July about the situation in the North-East - and especially in Sunderland.

I very much like your point that - there is always a danger of "firmness becoming hardness" and I will try to avoid it.

Soon after the Steel Strike was over, I remember visiting Sunderland

WJ

and going to the Austin and
Pillansill shipyard. There, one of
the workmen asked me to send
INMOS to Sunderland. I was not able
to do so because the Research
establishment was already in Bristol and
the manufacturing facility therefore went
to Swansea. But I saved the
feeling that perhaps too few of these
projects sponsored by government go to
the North East.

Shortly afterwards, one of the
Hong Kong ship-owners came to see me



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and I was able to persuade him to give us an order for 4 ships to be built in that year. A few months ago I launched one of them 'United Effort'. I tell you this to indicate that we are constantly thinking of how we can help your part of the world.

Another example - Northern Engineering industries. We were able to help secure an order for a power station in India for their firm in Eastleigh.

We continue to give special consideration to those orders which go to the Third World but which are manufactured in the North of England and in Scotland.

May I say a word of thanks to you for the wonderful work you do. It isn't easy to carry on when your pupils are constantly wondering about the future.

Be very good with.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher