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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 July 1981

Dear Hector,

It was really very kind of you to arrange my transport to and from Stoneleigh on Monday.

I had a fascinating day in very friendly surroundings - marred only by some tedious behaviour of a couple of journalists at the Press Conference.

The helicopter travel made the day much more relaxing for me than it otherwise could have been. I was very sorry to have to turn down your invitation to drop in - literally - for a drink on the way back to London, but the current problems of Liverpool and Northern Ireland meant that I had a tight schedule of meetings for the evening.

Thank you once again for helping me to make it possible to fit so much into a single day.

Yours ever

Raymond

Sir Hector Laing.

JK