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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

2 June 1981

Dear Mr. Powell,

Thank you for your letter of 26 May enclosing this letter from your constituent the Reverend Meidrym Mainwaring about the nomination of Bishop Graham Leonard to be the new Bishop of London.

I do not know what Press reports about this appointment your constituent may have read; some of them were extremely misleading. The proper procedures for the appointment were fully followed, as the Archbishop of Canterbury and I made clear at the time.

Your constituent's description of Bishop Leonard as "an ecclesiastical reactionary" would be accepted by few who know him.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Ray Powell Esq., M.P.