23rd May 1977

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher MP, The House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1.

Dear Margaret,

I enclose two notes, as requested.

- 1. Some aspects and implications of the Israel Labour Party's electoral defeat.
- 2. The matter of self-interest and higher interest.

I apologise for any slowness on my part to react when you rose to your feet at what I now realise to have been the end of our meeting. The point is that I had not come prepared to discuss the booklet, which I had been told had been dropped, but my note on advisers. Naturally, I was overjoyed to hear that it still has a chance to appear, but I was waiting to get round to the advisors and was insensitive to the fact that I was holding things up, sorry!

I look forward to your reaction to my note on advisors. Since I wrote it some time ago, I have followed the matter with specialists on both sides of the fence and am more than ever convinced that unless we prepare now, as Normah Hunt pointed out, the civil servants will come with urgent decisions to make during our first weeks in office, which will commit us for years to come.

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Sherman.

felent (ogether)