

19.

STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

9th June 1982

I am writing to thank you very much for the cheque for £500 which we opened in my room yesterday.

I think that we ought to have a note about this for your file, and for ours.

In November of last year, you and I had a discussion with the Prime Minister.

Her instructions were that I was to receive "at least £2,000 a year" as reimbursement of expenses. I protested about this but the Prime Minister remained adamant.

In fact, you then very kindly sent to me two cheques, each for £250.

We agreed that there would be no payment in respect of the period 9th May 1979 (the date on which I took up my appointment) and 31st December 1979, but that the two cheques would be treated as being £250 for the year ended 31st December 1980 and £250 for the year ended 31st December 1981.

I regard the cheque which you sent yesterday as being a payment at the rate of £1,000 a year in respect of six months ending 30th June 1982.

I repeat the protest, and accept the cheque only so as not to incur Prime Ministerial displeasure.

Thank you so much.

IAN GOW

The Hon. Alistair McAlpine