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4th May 1984.

Dear Prime Minister,

I have written quite a few words to you since 1981 when I began these notes and letters. I have not been inhibited from telling you the truth, good and bad, for I know that my words would have been worse than useless had I coloured my view with what I thought you might like to hear.

Today, within the same discipline, I take real pleasure in writing a simple letter of congratulation. It has been a remarkable five years. Consider Britain before you became Prime Minister.

A weak labour government presiding over slow decline in the nation's morals as well as in the economy.

The police depressed by repeated attacks from the Left, including members of the Labour Government and by the prevailing view that the criminal was more to be pitied than the victim of the crime.

The bureaucracy out of control. Growing like cancer. Not just in numbers. In numbing influence. Corruption was rife. In the Social Services. In central government. Not just plain stealing. The corruption of encouraging others to be unzealous. The corruption of covering up mistakes, so ensuring their repetition.

Trades unions out of control. Union leaders were sitting in Downing St. forcing through legislation to give to themselves even more power. The workshy were glorified. Those who wanted to work hard were reviled.

Investors property was stolen from them by government. Investment surcharges. Restrictions on dividends. Surtax. Super tax. Wealth tax in the wind. We were hemmed in with exchange controls. Landlords property was stolen from them by tenants who were able to outstay their terms and pay less than the freely agreed rent thanks to the Rent acts.

Employers saw no point in employing workers because the inaptly named Employment Protection Acts were far too penal.

For far too many, all of Capitalism had an unacceptable face. No surprise that management was depressed and saw no point in investing, that entrepreneurs were gloomy and wondering if they should go abroad.

All of our morality was so upside down that what many knew in their hearts as right was held publicly to be wrong. Hard work, thrift, risk taking. And what all knew to be wrong was held to be right. Slacking at work, living off the state, union mob rule.

Today?

By the example of your own personal morality and your courage, you have engineered a remarkable sea-change in the Soul Politic that many of us hardly dared hope for. The nation is beginning to find its moral strength again.

The police have responded to your lead. Their morale and their morals are improving. Just as well since they are going to face a stern test in the coming years from the Left who are beginning to abandon all attempts at democracy.

The state, though still far too large and still, alas taking far too great a share of the national cake, is beginning to respond to the will of government. Throughout the Civil Service, there is far more consciousness that state employees are servants of the people, that it is taxpayers money they spend.

The unions have been cut down to size. Not just by legislation. It has been fascinating to see how the great roaring tigers of the TUC turned out to be mere paper once they were forced out of Downing St and back to their lairs.

That the stock market can break new records during a miner's strike, unthinkable until now, is a most eloquent testimony to the benign changes you have wrought.

Managers are beginning to manage again. Entrepreneurs, including this writer, are undertaking new enterprisies. Taxes are so much lower, more and more international businesses are coming to Britain. Life is better for investors. Everywhere the economy is on the move.

Above all, the nation's morals are on the mend. Relationships throughout society have improved. Most important of all. People feel better about being British. A singular success. Your greatest personal achievement. For you have returned to a nation that had become gloomy, sullen, frustrated, the highest of all national feelings. Self respect.

Yours sincerely

David Hart.

