



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 October 1984

Dear Mr. MacLeod,

Thank you so much for your letter following the terrible explosion in Brighton. Your concern and that of the many thousands of others who have written to me to express their support has been a source of great strength over the past few days, not only for myself but also for the victims and their families. The wickedness of this terrorist act serves only to reinforce our determination to defend our peaceful and democratic way of life.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Reverend Murdo MacLeod



Free Church of Scotland

Principal Clerk of Assembly:
REV. PROFESSOR C. GRAHAM, M.A., B.D.

Assistant Clerk of Assembly:
REV. A. P. W. FRASER

TELEGRAMS "CITADEL, EDINBURGH"
TELEPHONE 031-226 5286/7

Offices:-

15 North Bank Street,

Edinburgh

EHI 2LS

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON
SW1A 2AL.

M8/60

15th October 1984.

Dear Madam,

On behalf of the ministers, elders and members of the Free Church of Scotland I wish to give expression to the sense of shock occasioned by the recent bombing in Brighton. Whilst grateful to Almighty God that the aims of the perpetrators were so largely thwarted, we desire to express, through you, our sympathy with, and assurance of our prayers for those who have suffered deeply as a result of this outrage.

This recent event is seen as the climax of many acts of violence perpetrated by men who are contemptuous of the rule of law and whose actions we hold in complete detestation.

You will, we are sure, forgive us, if in writing we take opportunity to reflect upon the escalating incidence of violence in our country. This fact, in many instances expresses a sense of frustration and embitterment on the part of some who are persuaded that sanctioned law offends social justice and emphasises the need to convince people that the aims of government are to procure and to demonstrate the procurement of equity in social relations.

We offer these remarks, in the belief that it is, in fact your aim and the aim of all members of HM Government to secure a just social order from which violence will be outlawed by universal consent.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew A. MacLeod

The

Moderator