

PERSONAL



*File K*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

27 February 1985

Following a conversation which I had with your Secretary of State yesterday, the Prime Minister has written in the attached terms to Jack Peel. This is a personal correspondence between the Prime Minister and Mr. Peel, and I should be grateful if you could ensure that it is not given further circulation beyond yourself and your Secretary of State.

*File K*

David Normington, Esq.,  
Department of Employment.

PERSONAL

*DM*

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10 DOWNING STREET

*File AFJ  
CD/M*

THE PRIME MINISTER

27 February 1985

*Dear Sir,*

I was very grateful for your letter of 6 February, which I read with great interest.

Matters have now moved on in the coal dispute and I hope that you feel that the Government responded in the right way to the TUC and that the NCB went as far as they properly could to get a settlement. It now looks as if, despite our hopes, that is not within our reach, unless there is a change of heart in the NUM Executive.

I was also grateful to you for warning me about the situation in British Rail. Nicholas Ridley is watching this closely but I hope that you will keep in touch with me about it.

I have considered very carefully your suggestion that you should become a part-time adviser to me on industrial relations and I have had a word with Tom King about it. Both he and I feel that you can be more valuable in the field of industrial relations by continuing to advise us on the present basis than by accepting any sort of official post in this field. I hope therefore that you will continue to give me advice from time to time on the present basis, which I greatly value. Tom King has said, however, that if you would like to have a talk with him about other ways in which you could help the Government he would be glad to do so.

*Yours ever*

*Thatcher*

*JP*

Jack Peel, Esq, CBE, DL.

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