

CF to link with pps

ls

GIFTS



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

7 June, 1984.

Dear Miss Beston,

I was very touched by your kindness in sending me your letter of 4 June and the simply beautiful Henry Moore etching. Your gift came as a complete surprise to me, and it will be a source of lasting delight.

It is made all the more precious to me by Mr. Moore's personal inscription, and I should be grateful if you would pass on my warmest thanks to him.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Miss V. Beston

ls

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A letter of thanks
for the etching is
attached for your
signature. FERB

Prime Minister

In the light of Sir Robert's
advice, what would you like to do
with the etching?

Ref. A084/1663

MR BUTLER

will buy for £125
me

I think you need only feel
bound by X/ if there is a suitable
place for the print in one of the public areas.

Thank you for your minute of 5 June about the artist's proof FERB
of a Henry Moore print, signed by the artist, which Marlborough 6.6
Fine Art have presented to the Prime Minister.

2. This gift is clearly worth more than £75.

3. I share your view that it is a gift which could not be regarded as putting the Prime Minister under an obligation to the artist or to the gallery. It was made after the gallery had been asked to offer prints which could be purchased for presentation to Heads of State or Government attending the Economic Summit, and after the prints to be given had been ordered. It is not likely to affect future decisions as to where to go for gifts to visiting statesmen, or what to choose.

4. I do not think that we need ask the Prime Minister to refuse or return the gift, or to dispose of it.

5. Unless the Prime Minister wishes to purchase the print at its cash value less £75 - let us say, for £125 - I suggest that it should be kept and displayed in one of the public rooms or areas in 10 Downing Street. Given that it has a personal inscription to Mrs Thatcher, however, I think that she could regard herself as entitled to take it with her, if and when she ceases to reside at 10 Downing Street.

RA

Approved by
ROBERT ARMSTRONG
and signed in his absence

6 June 1984

Marlborough

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The Duke of Beaufort

Directors:

G. Lloyd, B. C. Lloyd, V. Beston,

A. A. Reichardt, J. Erle-Drax, L. Howie

PERSONAL

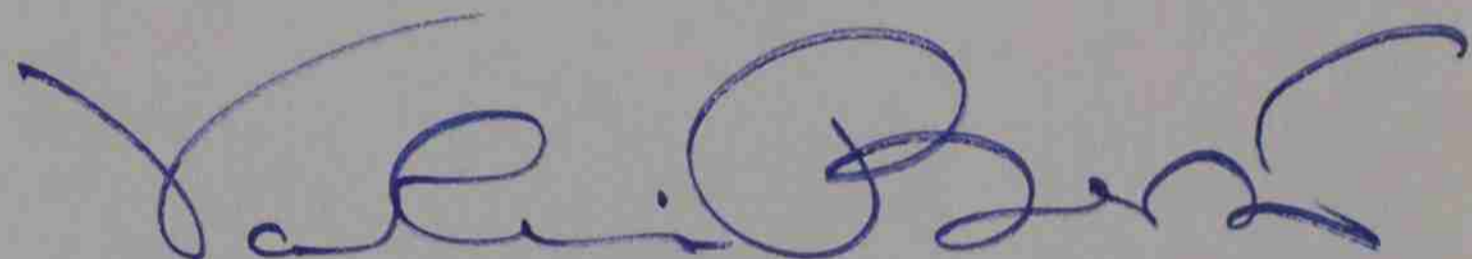
The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON S.W.1

4th June 1984

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

We hope you will accept this HENRY MOORE Etching
as a Souvenir of the Economic Summit and as a small token of
our admiration and support.

Yours sincerely,



V. Beston
Director

vb/mg