

From: MICHAEL HOWARD, Q.C., M.P.

Box
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HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

17th June.

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for a most agreeable lunch. ms

I do see how frustrating the political climate is at the moment but, while recognizing the dangers of complacency, I do think that mid-term is prime time for the exploitation of single issue grievances.

This is aggravated by a factor which we did not discuss - the availability, in the shape of the so-called Alliance, of an easy option which is all things to all men. The arithmetic, as you know, is very clear. If we held every seat we won at the last election in which the Alliance were

Second we can lose three out of every five of the other seats we hold and still have an overall majority. We must therefore ensure that the manifest weaknesses of the Alliance are fully exposed.

I remain confident that when the time comes right will prevail.

I do hope that the absence clears up very quickly indeed

Yours

Michael.