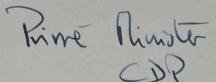
PERSONAL





Sir Brian Hayes KCB Permanent Secretary F

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MI

28 January 1986

Nigel Wicks Esq
Principal Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

Dear Nigel,

I felt I must write to you, on behalf of this Department, to express our deep appreciation of the way in which the Prime Minister has dealt with DTI's involvement in the Westland affair in her statement of last Thursday and her speech in yesterday's debate. We are only too conscious of the difficult position in which the Prime Minister has been placed. As you can imagine, the officials concerned here have also been under great pressure since this matter became public: it was a profound relief to them that the account of events which the Prime Minister has given to the House should have been so scrupulously fair and accurate.

Clours ever,

BRIAN HAYES

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