

Chalfont

Alum Arthur Gwynne Jones.

Private and Personal

18th May 1979

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter.

I am sure that Peter Carrington will value a talk with you as soon as possible if he has not already had a chance of seeing you.

Meanwhile we are, as you may know, looking into the future of the Washington Embassy and I appreciate the concern which you have shown about it over the last few months.

So much will depend on our future relations with the Carter Administration when Peter Carrington meets Cyrus Vance here in London next week. Any advice that you can give in advance would, I know, be greatly appreciated.

With best wishes,

The Rt Hon Lord Chalfont OBE MC



From: The Rt. Hon. Lord Chalfont, PC, OBE, MC.



*House of Lords · Westminster*

PRIVATE AND PERSONAL

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, MP,  
The Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London SW 1.

11th May 1979

*Dear Prime Minister,*

Now that the dust has settled a little I am writing to offer my warmest congratulations on your splendid victory. I am looking forward to a very considerable resurgence in this country's influence in world affairs under your leadership, and I am enormously impressed with the powerful team you have installed in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where I believe there has been for some time a certain lack of inspiration.

You may recall when I wrote to you shortly before the election I expressed my concern about the state of affairs at our Embassy in Washington. I hope to have a word with Peter Carrington about this before too long, but you are probably already aware of the need for someone to take a very close look at the way the whole place is staffed.

Finally, may I say that if there is any contribution that I can make to your efforts, especially in the field of foreign affairs or defence, I shall be delighted to do so. I shall not, of course, expect a reply to this letter. You will have far more important things to occupy your time.

With every good wish for the future.

*Yours etc.*

*Alan.*