

Private & Confidential

27th May, 1980

Before he left for Spain, Mr. Ian Gow asked me to let you know that Lord Salisbury had sent to him a copy of your letter to Mrs. Spearman dated 7th May, and of Lord Salisbury's letter to you dated 23rd May.

Mr. Gow asked me to make it very clear that he agrees, very strongly, with everything that you say in your letter to Mrs. Spearman, although he is an agnostic so far as the first paragraph of that letter is concerned.

Although Mr. Gow does not agree with much of Lord Salisbury's letter of 23rd May, he hopes that you will not have a continuing battle with Lord Salisbury about this.

As you know, Lord Salisbury is, essentially, on our side. Mr. Gow is most indignant about Lord Salisbury's references to Sir Keith Joseph and to "second rate intellectual minds".

However, Mr. Gow thinks that we have quite enough on our hands in order to fight our enemies, without, at the same time, fighting our friends.

Secretary to Ian Gow

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