


Patten

Gov

 6th May 1983

Sir Michael Edwardes

Many thanks for your letter of 4th May.

It was good of you to have taken the trouble to write.

I have shown your letter to the Prime Minister.

IAN GOW

Dr John Patten NP

JOHN PATTEN, MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

4th May, 1983

I. Gow Esq., M.P.,
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Ray

Dear Ian:

Sir Michael Edwardes

I had lunch with Sir Michael today, at his invitation; it seemed to be a purely social occasion. However, he did make one comment which I thought I might pass on (indeed, I rather thought he wanted me to pass it on).

He told me that he was coming to a Reception that the Prime Minister was giving, and that he was unsure of his relationship with her. He said that he had often had to do things, or strike attitudes, in order to appear independent and non-political to the Trade Unions. He said that if he had not done that, he would not have been able to do much with B.L. He also hoped that the Prime Minister had not taken offence at anything in his recent book.

He told me that he was a strong supporter of the Government and a great admirer of the Prime Minister; I got the impression that he wanted to mend any broken fences.

MINIS in D.H.S.S. (N.I.)

While writing, I thought I would send you the second and I hope greatly improved version. Pages one to four tell all. I find it a critically important management tool in the introduction of value-for-money concepts and the search for ways of realistically costing-out functions in the Department for which I am responsible. In particular I am trying to find ways of getting managers involved all the way down the line in administrative cost savings - see, eg, the farm illustrated

on p.4,

as
ever,
John.