

PERSONAL



SkwBOW

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

You should know that I received from Sir Alan Walters at 1230 today an article on international co-ordination of economies which he said he had sent for publication in the winter number of the National Interest. (The National Interest is a magazine which circulates in Washington.)

I told him on the telephone at 1445 that he should withdraw the article from publication since it would be bound to revive all the embarrassment which we experienced recently. Alan readily agreed to have the article withdrawn. The editor of the National Interest was he said an old friend and there would be no difficulty about this. He wondered whether the article might be published anonymously. I drew his attention to the unfortunate experience of the Crockford's preface. He said that he did not intend to commit suicide and immediately recognised that publication, even anonymously, was not on.

I have written a further letter to Alan, a copy of which is attached.

His article, which is a powerful piece, is on the file here if you wish to read it. I would not intend to tell the Treasury of this episode.

N. L. W.

(N. L. WICKS)  
27 July 1988

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