



FILE

DA

*off file - see below*

*cc: DT + incoming letter*

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 November, 1983

*Dear John*

On my return from Delhi I read with interest David Culver's letter of 15 November. I was most heartened to hear of the improvement in your company's fortunes, produced by the recent merger, the renegotiation of the contract with NCB, and the improvement in the aluminium market.

*Yours ever  
Raymond*

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Peyton of Yeovil

*RW*

From: The Rt. Hon. Lord Peyton of Yeovil

**British Alcan Aluminium Limited**

A member of the Alcan group of companies



Registered Office: Chalfont Park, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 0QB

Telephone: Gerrards Cross (0753) 887373; Telex: 847343

22nd November 1983

*Dear Prime Minister*

*R24*

*in box* David Culver has sent me a copy of a letter which he wrote to you on the 15th November reporting that following the merger of Alcan UK and British Aluminium, there is emerging a viable industry in this country, which provides employment for more than 10,000 people.

I would like to add my own thanks and appreciation, for I am quite certain that this would not have occurred without the prompt welcome accorded by you and your colleagues to the merger, when the possibility arose a year ago.

*Yours sincerely*

*John Lee*

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.

Ind Po!  
July 821  
Alcan.

311



Sec DTI  
HMT

HL

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

22 November 1983

Thank you for your letter of 15 November. I will show it to the Prime Minister when she returns from Delhi. I am sure she will be delighted at the very encouraging developments which you report.

Andrew Turnbull

D.M. Culver, Esq.

da

# Alcan Aluminium Limited

1188 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Québec, Canada H3A 3G2  
Telephone: 514/848-8000 • Telex: 05-25236 • Cable: ALCAN



bcc DTI

*off pps*

Prime Minister ②

15 November 1983 *I have replied, saying you will be very pleased with these encouraging developments.*

*CGH*

*AT 22/11*

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,  
10 Downing Street,  
London SW1,  
U.K.

Dear Prime Minister:

You will recall that when I came to see you in April, we had only just started upon the process of merging the operations of Alcan U.K. and British Aluminium. This, I am happy to be able to say, has now been completed without undue disturbance and some real benefits are beginning to appear. We have also arrived at an energy arrangement which, being based on the f.o.b. price of U.K. coal exports, means that we are now in a position to face European competition; it is very much what I had in mind and, indeed, mentioned to you when we met.

The fact that a viable aluminium industry has now emerged is due in no small measure to the favourable wind which your Government gave to the merger. For our part, the decision to make the large additional investment necessary amounted (and the Financial Times quoted me on this recently) to a vote of confidence in Britain, where there is now, in my view, a state of mind very different from anything we have seen for a long time.

Yours sincerely,

*David M. Culver*

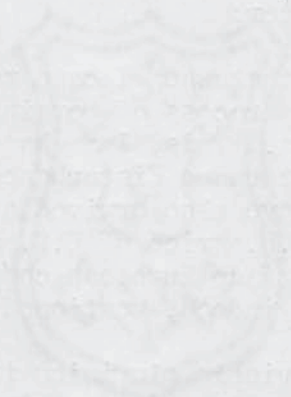
David M. Culver  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

DMC:JD

Ind. Pol : Alcan (UK) Ltd  
7/82



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ALCAN ALUMINIUM LIMITED

1 PLACE VILLE MARIE, MONTREAL • MAIL ADDRESS: BOX 6090, MONTREAL, CANADA H3C 3N2  
TELEPHONE: 514/877-2340 • TELEX: 05-25236 • CABLE: ALCAN

Prime Minister <sup>2</sup>

Mrs 29/4



21 April 1983

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, P.C., M.P.,  
10 Downing Street  
London, S.W.1  
England

Dear Prime Minister:

I appreciate very deeply the kind and considerate reception that you gave to John Peyton, George Russell and me on 13 April 1983.

We all have to live with the consequences of our own decisions. But in the case of Alcan's increased commitment to the British aluminium industry, this is all made a great deal easier for me by the knowledge of your personal interest and encouragement.

Yours sincerely,

*David M. Culver*

David M. Culver

DMC:BAR