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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

28 June 1982

Parsons,

Many thanks for all you did for me in New York on Tuesday and Wednesday last. It was a pleasure to see you again.

I am sad to think that I am now writing to a retired member of the Diplomatic Service. You have given the country splendid service, and you know how especially grateful I am to you for your cool advice and well-directed activity during these last three months. I thought it right to say so in the House of Commons on Thursday. As you will see from the enclosed extract from Hansard, others joined in.

Thank you. My best wishes to Lady Parsons. Enjoy your retirement. It will not be entirely uninterrupted by further work - indeed it would be a waste if it were - but you have certainly earned some rest.

We shall look forward to seeing you on your return.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Anthony Parsons, G.C.M.G., M.V.O., M.C.

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