

CF
CSI Conference
4/11/84



509

10 DOWNING STREET

1 November 1984

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Sir Terence.

I was particularly touched that you should have written such a nice and understanding letter about the message that Robin Butler conveyed to you this morning. I took this decision only with great reluctance because I had been greatly looking forward to Sunday evening. A question and answer session is certainly much less hard work than a speech, and it might have been more stimulating for all concerned!

I have sent a message to James and I hope that the Conference goes very well. I should be delighted to see you afterwards and hear a first hand account of it.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

Sir Terence Beckett, C.B.E.

509.

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From
Sir Terence Beckett CBE
Director-General

CBI

1st. Nov. 1984.

Your Prime Minister,

Robin Butler

has just phoned me to say you
cannot come to Eastbourne on Sunday.

I wanted you to know that I am
absolutely sure this is the right
decision. You cannot know what
delays you will run into at Delhi,
but apart from that, the travel
and sadness that you have to
go through at the other end,
on top of all your other burdens,

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mean you shouldn't have to worry
about us in any way.

I greatly appreciated Robin's
call and the care you had taken
about it all. Everyone will understand.

Perhaps after Delhi and the
opening of Parliament we can give
you a short account of how the
conference went. We have high hopes
for it.

Yours sincerely,

Tony.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street.