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② 100 + 500.

Prime Minister

cc. Charles Powell  
Caroline Ryder  
Michael Alison  
Stephen Sherbourne

MR MACLAY, LEADER OF THE NEW ZEALAND OPPOSITION PARTY

I understand that when you were in Washington, Brian Tallboys, one of the New Zealand representatives there, approached you about the possibility of a meeting with Mr MacLay when he came to London this Autumn. I also understand that John Gummer gave a firm undertaking to them that you would be able to do this.

When an approach came direct from the Foreign Office to Number Ten, the request was declined because we did not know about this earlier undertaking, and because of diary difficulties. Mr MacLay is only in London from 19th-23rd September; you will be in the Middle East from 16th-21st September and back in the office on the 23rd.

I spoke to Jim Spicer about this matter, who told me about John Gummer's promise. He feels very strongly that because there has been a slight misunderstanding our end, it would be helpful to good relations if you were to agree to see Mr MacLay if at all possible. Although Monday, 23rd is your first "working" day after you get back from Egypt, Caroline does have a slot at 10.45 a.m.

Would you agree to see Mr MacLay then?

Yes  
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TESSA  
6.9.85



New Zealand High Commission

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Reference:

General.

6 September 1985

Dear Nigel White,

May I congratulate you upon your appointment as Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.

The High Commission has a close liaison with 10 Downing Street & we are grateful for the help & sage advice about various matters -



especially Mr. Prime  
Minister's visits - which  
the Private Secretaries  
promptly & unflinchingly  
give us.

Earlier this week Charles  
Powell was especially  
helpful when we needed  
it over the appointment  
of our new High Commissioner

May I wish you well  
in your new appointment.  
I am myself leaving  
London next week but no  
doubt my successor as  
deputy H.C., Neil Walter, will  
be in touch as need may  
arise. Best wishes,  
Yours, Anne Brown