



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

4 August 1988

Dear Bob,

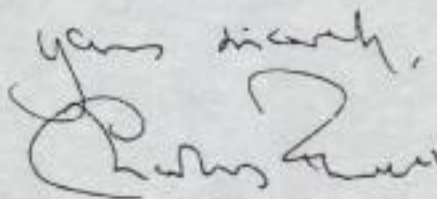
PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE PREMIER OF NEW SOUTH WALES

The Prime Minister had a talk with the Premier of New South Wales on her arrival in Sydney this morning. Mr. Greiner was accompanied by two of his Ministers.

Mr. Greiner gave an account of the policies of the State Government which he described as the first reformist conservative administration in Australia's history. He said that he had taken many of his ideas from the policies of the British Government, both on education, on state finances and on privatisation. There was considerable resistance to many of his ideas, particularly from the unions, but he was determined to press ahead.

The Prime Minister described some of the British Government's experiences with similar policies over the past nine years and congratulated Mr. Greiner on his courage in undertaking such far-reaching changes. She would also arrange for him to have a fuller account of our experiences in dealing with the electricity unions who had played a very responsible role. It might be possible to encourage the EEPTU leaders to visit New South Wales. Mr. Greiner said that there were remarkable parallels between what the Prime Minister had achieved in the United Kingdom and what he was seeking to achieve in New South Wales. He was trying to bring about a complete change of attitude and political culture. He was grateful for the Prime Minister's advice.

The two points above relating to education reform and the electricity industry will need to be followed up with our High Commissioner in Canberra.

Yours sincerely,


(C.D. POWELL)

R.N. Peirce, Esq.,
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.