

SECRET

FILE  
cc Angela Horder  
Lindsey Wilkinson

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

John Moore came to see the Prime Minister today to inform her about his plans. He had concluded that he should not stand again at the next election. His aim was to develop an alternative career in finance and consulting but he had been advised that he would be able to do this better full-time rather than part-time as an MP. He would, however, like to serve the Party in the House of Lords.

The Prime Minister said there was another side to the case. Being an MP provided a base, an income, a pension, a secretary, an office and a location at which to entertain. It also provided an entrée to certain places.

Mr. Moore acknowledged this, but felt the balance lay with ceasing to be an MP. He wanted to be able to take charge of something which he could not do while still in the house. He had secured two part-time assignments (Gartmore and Monitor) but he wished to be able to develop beyond them.

The Prime Minister acknowledged this and agreed that she would put him forward for the House of Lords.

It was agreed that no announcement should be made to the Constituency Association for the time being. Mr. Moore should keep in touch with the Chief Whip on timing.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

15 October 1990

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PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH MR. MOORE

John Moore is coming to see you on Monday to discuss his political future. He has finally secured some worthwhile outside employment. A non-executive directorship of the Gartmore investment group was announced recently. He is also joining the board of Monitor, an American consulting group but I have not seen any public reports of this.

I suspect he may indicate his wish not to stand at the next election and seek confirmation that you would recommend him for the House of Lords. At Bournemouth, you expressed the hope that more former Ministers would stay in the House to make a worthwhile contribution from the Back Benches rather than drifting off into commercial careers or leaving the House entirely. David Howell and Norman Tebbit in their different ways still make such a contribution. Over the past year, John Moore has been almost invisible and you may feel that there is little point in trying to persuade him to stay.

He may also raise the subject of the Cyclotron. The discussion with Sir Nicholas Bonsor in the summer was inconclusive and the project was left to wait upon the results of the neutron trial on prostate cancer. These results were expected in October but have not yet emerged. Flag A is a note from Department of Health on subsequent developments. They maintain their scepticism of neutron therapy but there have been favourable developments on proton therapy which is used for treatment of eye cancers. The option of moving the existing machine to London, where it would have a larger catchment area and better research support is being researched. John Moore may commend this course. This is a complex problem involving both technical and financial issues. The best course is for John Moore to continue discussions directly with the Department.

(ANDREW TURNBULL)

12 October 1990

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PRIME MINISTER

John Moore

John Moore rang me to request a meeting with you to discuss his political future. He did not state what he has in mind but I suspect he has concluded that he does not wish to stand again at the next election.

He did, however, report better news on his personal position. He will shortly be announcing that he will be taking a position on the US Board of Monitor, a consultancy advising companies on strategic thinking. This will take about two days a week and will be remunerative. He will also be advising Gartmore, a fund management group owned by Banque Indo-Suez. This will take about one day a week. I have arranged a meeting for Monday, 15 October at 1800.

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ANDREW TURNBULL

20 September 1990

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