

PRIME MINISTER

Mr. James Blackstone has taken out a Summons against the former Lord Chancellor in which he seeks to obtain an injunction to prohibit a general election for a variety of reasons. Mr. Blackstone sent No. 10 a copy of the Summons which purported to suggest that you, among others, are a party to the action as one of a considerable number of defendants. The Treasury Solicitor's Department tells us that in fact the writ was issued only against Lord Hailsham, without mention of you.

Mr. Blackstone's writ gives all the appearance of production by an unbalanced mind. Nevertheless, the legal formalities have to be pursued, and the Treasury Solicitor needs to be able to speak on your behalf at any hearing should the need arise. To do this he asks that you should sign the form of retainer immediately below.

Could you please do so.

*Signed*  
*mf*

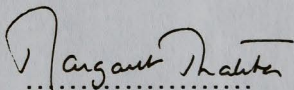
N.L.W.

N. L. WICKS

13 July 1987

SLHALE

I, MARGARET THATCHER, of 10 Downing Street, Whitehall, London SW1, hereby authorise the Treasury Solicitor and his agents to act on my behalf in connection with the \* proceedings CH 1987 - B - No. 3535 issued out of the Chancery Chambers of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice as between James Luke Blackstone and Quintin McGarel, Baron Hailsham of St Marylebone, and take such steps as may be considered necessary by the Treasury Solicitor in his capacity as my solicitor and legal adviser for the purposes of the said proceedings.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Thatcher', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a dotted line.

MARGARET THATCHER

Date: 14 July 1987