

BRITISH AIRWAYS

8 May 1987

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

British Airways Plc
Enserch House
8 St. James's Square
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Telephone: 01-930 4915

Chairman:
Lord King of Wartnaby

Dear Prime Minister

When I wrote to you last week I ought to have mentioned that I was about to visit Moscow on business, both for British Airways and for Babcock International.

I got back yesterday and enclose two photographs which were taken during your visit to our British Airways Office. That you found time to make this call was most heartening to our Moscow staff - and to me.

Your recent visit is still a major topic of conversation with everyone one meets in Moscow from ministers to taxi drivers. Your now famous Press Conference is seen as an event of real significance in the developing relations between Mr Gorbachev's Soviet Union and the West. A frequently repeated comment is that notwithstanding recent changes the people of the USSR had to learn from a British Prime Minister how they are defended.

By what I trust was a coincidence, the Minister of Aviation was relieved of his responsibilities on the day of my arrival, but nevertheless I had a useful series of meetings with Ministers and Officials. I shall be sending to Peter Walker a note of those concerned with energy and nuclear power.

It is most important to our airline that relations with the Soviet Authorities in the field of civil aviation should be close and constructive. I was told by the Chief of International Relations in the Soviet Ministry that the Federal Republic of Germany had registered strong displeasure on behalf of Lufthansa at the agreement recently concluded with the Soviet Union permitting British flights through Soviet air space to Tokyo. This is the kind of international competition with which our airline has to contend and which I mentioned during our recent conversation.

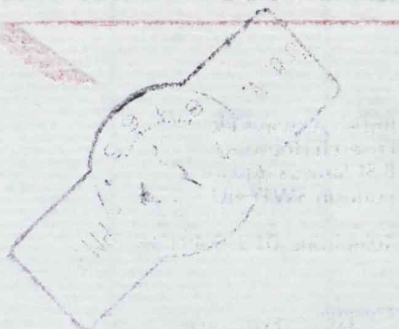
With very best wishes - with next week in mind! As ever

DM



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BRITISH AIRWAYS



WORLDWIDE

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LORD KING OF WARTNABY

30th April, 1987

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Prime Minister ⁴

I very much enjoyed the talk we had
yesterday morning and will write to
you later with my ideas of extending
further the privatisation process.

I would like to continue the discussion
we had about the airline industry
after the election - whenever that
is to be?.

Yours ever

mt

DK

