

PERSONAL



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

17 June 1989

Dear Stephen.

Mr Norman Tebbit wants to come to see the Prime Minister shortly to discuss an invitation which he has received from the Moscow Norodny Bank to become Chairman of a London-based company with the task of selecting a British citizen to be an astronaut in one of the Soviet space shots. As I understand it, the purpose is to seek commercial sponsorship of this. Mr Tebbit is asking the Prime Minister's advice. I should be grateful for a very early view on whether you think this would be appropriate for Mr Tebbit to undertake bearing in mind, among other things, that we do not want to offend the Americans.

I am copying this letter to Neil Thornton (Department of Trade and Industry) and would be grateful for their advice as well. I should be grateful if the matter could be handled in strict confidence. The Prime Minister will want to discuss it with Mr Tebbit herself and would not want others to make contact with him.

Yours sincerely,
Chris Powell

C. D. POWELL

Stephen Wall, Esq.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

PERSONAL