

Confederation of British Industry  
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From  
Sir James Cleminson MC DL  
President



5th November 1984

*Dear Prime Minister,*

I would like to thank you very much indeed for the letter which you sent to me before you left for India. I was able to read it out to the members and their guests at the Mayor's reception last night. It was enormously appreciated that you had tried to be here despite everything else that you were having to do. Everybody realised that it would put far too great a strain on you to have done other than you did.

The Conference proper starts this morning. We missed you but I am sure, despite what would have been a wonderful start, we shall have a very useful debate. I will let you know about it on my return to London.

*Yours ever*

*James*

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



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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

2 November 1984

Dear Pete,

Caroline tried to telephone you this morning to say how particularly sorry I am that my attendance at the funeral of Mrs Gandhi had led to the cancellation of the CBI's question and answer session on Sunday evening. I was greatly looking forward to it, not least for the pleasure of "appearing" with you.

The CBI have told me that they will be getting in touch with you in the hope that we can arrange another event of this sort at some time in the future. I hope we can, and I am very sorry that, after you had kindly agreed to help with this occasion, your own plans have been disrupted.

My best regards to Tricia.

Yours

Raymond

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Pete Murray, Esq.

VC





10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

2 November 1984

Dear James,

I am particularly sorry that I cannot be with you on the first evening of the CBI Conference. You are aware of the tragic events which have made it necessary for me to change my plans. I had greatly looked forward to the opportunity of a discussion with your members at the question and answer session which you had arranged for me.

There are plenty of important economic and industrial issues before this year's Conference. I am particularly pleased that you are tackling the opportunities of Europe; the relationship between competitiveness, good industrial relations and jobs; the creation of a more enterprising society; and the contribution which the taxation system can make to this objective. I also warmly welcome your discussion document "Share in the Action" which you are to debate on Monday afternoon and which addresses the vital question of wider ownership and participation in Britain's industry.

These are all topical and important subjects and I would have thoroughly enjoyed discussing them as well as other points which your members would no doubt have wanted to raise. I have no doubt that your debates will be constructive and interesting and I shall follow closely reports of what is said in them.

SOP



Please will you pass on my best wishes to all your members for a very successful and stimulating Conference, together with my sincere regrets that I cannot be with you on Sunday evening.

Y  
Lousier  
Raymond

Sir James Cleminson, MC, DL.