

Centre for Policy Studies

(F)

8 Wilfred Street · London SW1E 6PL · Telephone 01 - 828 1176

CONFIDENTIAL

16 May 1983

Ian Gow Esq (of the doghouse)
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear *Ian,*

I know we shall be very busy with the elections, but unless we can get CPS business safely pigeonholed, it can still disrupt. I had a long chat with Hugh. He told me a good deal of history decisions regarding the CPS, of which I had been unaware, though he did not know this.

It also transpired that some cross purposes and misunderstandings still exist. For example, he is under the impression that until the Prime Minister agrees that the CPS should try to collect more than the "basic" £120,000, there is no purpose to be gained by his discussing it with me or us. If I did not misunderstand you, your view on the proper sequence of decision-taking is quite different.

He also informed me that the agreement to keep down the CPS's collection, ostensibly in order not to deprive the Party funds (though I retain my scepticism) was taken by Keith Joseph and Peter Thorneycroft some time in 1976.

Subsequent to the election, various decisions were taken to align the CPS with the Party. Apparently - and this does not surprise me - Thorneycroft wanted the Centre to be absorbed into the Party, ~~to~~ to assuage jealousy on the part of the CRD and other Central Office groups, and to muzzle or exclude me. Insofar as Hugh was instrumental in preventing this, I owe him some gratitude, but since I was kept unaware of the whole affair, and still do not know it in the round, I am hardly to blame for not expressing it, gratitude, or for reacting when the shoe pinched.

At all events, Hugh agrees with me that many of the difficulties, cross-purposes and frictions stem from my exclusion from direct participation in decision-making, indeed my total exclusion and having been kept in ignorance of what was happening. He agrees that in future I should be directly involved.

(cont/)


Directors: Lord Thomas (*Chairman*) Lord Cayzer (*Hon Treasurer*) Alfred Sherman (*Director of Studies*)
Simon Webley Secretary: Nathalie Brooke

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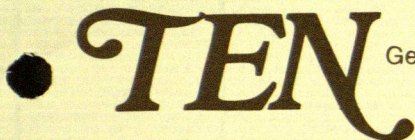
Founders: Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP · Rt Hon Sir Keith Joseph, Bt MP

I therefore suggest that you forward a brief letter from me to the Prime Minister, at a time of your choosing, which, as you will see,, requests that I be involved in post-electoral decision-making regarding the functions, role, interaction and manning of the Centre.

With sincere thanks for your patient help and other matters besides, I remain,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'AS', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Alfred Sherman



Gerald Road, London SW1 Telephone: 01-730 2838, Cables: SHERMANIA, LONDON SW1

CONFIDENTIAL

16 May 1983

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Dear *Margaret,*

Sometime after the elections, the future role, functions, interactions and manning of the Centre For Policy Studies, of which you are the primary fount of authority, will be discussed. In light of experience, may I request that I be directly involved in the discussions from the outset.

With gratitude and dedication,

I remain,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alfred Sherman" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alfred Sherman

Sherman

29 Ladbroke Grove
London W11 3BB
01-727 2288

May 10, 1983

My dear Alfred,

We have had some differences over the last few months. I greatly regret this. I have no doubt that my own preoccupations - one of which was concerned with the party's European study group, as you know - caused ^{me} to neglect some of the nicer points which as always govern friendships such as ours. I very much hope however - no, I insist - that, now we have the election (upon which so much hangs) we can bury the hatchets of dispute & direct all our imaginations to the essential cause. As I have told you I am not at all opposed in principle to some of your ideas, but I do need the prime Minister's approval for going further than a certain point. Nor do I want to cross wires with the party. We have over the past four years established an excellent relation with the party, I think, if one compares how things stood in 1979: there is no comparison really.

I have made arrangements for meetings with all those persons you suggested - they have been away - not me! See you soon.
With every good & enthusiastic wish
Augh