

CC MASTER -

MFAIR

RS



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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

12 December 1984

Sir 'Dick' Troughton called on the Prime Minister yesterday evening to bid farewell as Chairman of the British Council. He raised two points touching on the finances of the British Council. The first was that the security measures which the Council now had to take cost about £½m. per year: he wondered whether the Government could give any extra help with these. The other was that the British Council's machinery for forecasting the effect upon them of inflation in the countries in which they operated was very sophisticated, and the money allocated by the Government did not compensate for it. He hoped that, when the grant was next uprated for inflation the Government would examine whether the Council's forecasts had turned out to be correct and, if so, make adjustments accordingly. The Prime Minister took note.

I am copying this letter to David Peretz (HM Treasury).

Peretz

Len Appleyard Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Sir 'Dick' Troughton

Sir 'Dick' Troughton came to see the Prime Minister last night to say farewell as Chairman of the British Council. He said that he would be available for other public work. He would prefer specific tasks which took say 3-6 months rather than continuous commitments.

12 December 1984

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE



*File No*

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

12 December 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 12 December and to say how much she enjoyed seeing you yesterday evening. She is grateful to you for putting on record the points which you made to her about the finances of the British Council.

*(RUB)*

Sir Charles Troughton, C.B.E., M.C., T.D.

*ST*



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

I think that Dick  
Troughton did take rather  
unfair advantage of the  
meeting last night to put a  
case for more money for the  
British Council.

Rather than your ~~reply~~ <sup>sending</sup>  
a substantive reply I suggest  
that I should simply acknowledge  
on your behalf, thanking him for  
putting on record the two points he  
made to you. Agree? <sup>W</sup> FERB 12.12.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL  
10 SPRING GARDENS LONDON SW1A 2BN  
01-930 8466

From The Chairman  
Sir Charles Troughton CBE MC TD

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher FRS MP  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

12 December 1984

*Dear Prime Minister,*

Thank you so much for seeing me last night. I came really to thank you for your many kindnesses to me and ended up, as I expect everybody else does, pleading a cause. But I hope you forgive me because I believe my cause is British interests.

May I briefly record that if £1 million could be found to meet the inflationary costs abroad in excess of Treasury estimates, and £500,000 to meet what I estimate has been spent as a result of Ken Whitty's murder, and the continuing costs to protect our staff and remain an "open access" organisation which is the whole point of what we try to do, then I would feel that I had left a difficult but not an impossibly difficult year for David Orr to begin with.

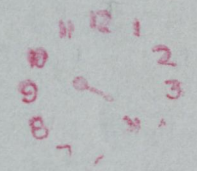
May I add this, that I would pray that if you felt we could be helped it could be done through the contingency fund and not at the expense of the FCO. I have seen the latter over the last eight years and I have to say that I think it would be greatly against British interests if it were cut any more - even to help a needy friend like ourselves.

Again I thank you for all the kindness and help you have shown me. I look back on it all as an enormously worthwhile and interesting part of my life and it has been a great privilege to have worked for you, and I most certainly will never forget that.

*Yours ever  
Dick*

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12 DEC 1984



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