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PM/chs

PERSONAL

Conservative Central Office

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THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY

The Hon. Peter Morrison, MP

PM saw on 27/7/87

27th July 1987

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP 10 Downing Street London SW1

Thank you so much for such an enjoyable and delicious lunch yesterday, which I much enjoyed.

I am sure that your concern to get Central Office and the Party Machine on the right track is both possibile, and, provided tackled soon after the Party Conference, not that difficult to achieve.

I agree with you that a simple and concise set of aims and objectives should be set down. The basis of these must be that Central Office is your Political Office, which it always has been, although it has not always been perceived as such either by its current occupants, over the years, or by the outside world. The trick will then be to get the right personalities in the right slots to deliver those aims and objectives. That will be a more difficult task, given the quite understandable sensitivities of the present team of Directors and Agents about their careers, as well as the complications of finding the right recruits. However, I believe that all that is possible providing it is handled carefully and we keep Peter Lane on side throughout.

If we do not, then any potential troublemaker will stir up the National Union against us, which would make our achievement of our goals that much more difficult judging by what has happened in the past.

Thank you again very much for lunch.

PETER MORRISON