

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

Perel

Jean Ridard,

You will be interested

to see Peter South's nate & me
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to agone - not com trie.

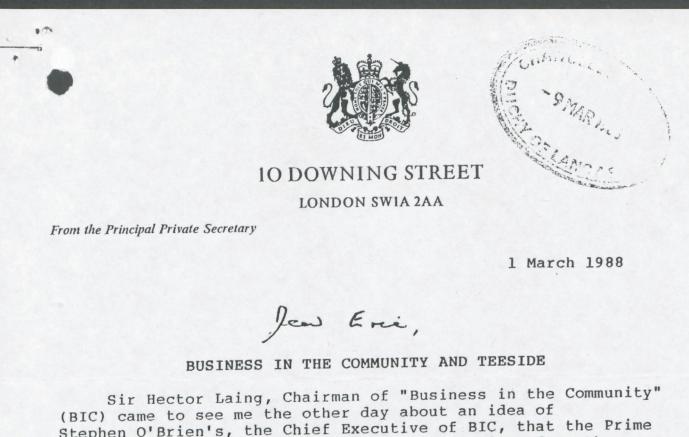
Forget that we wont for a

Governt what they collection responsability as supposed of act as a seaulors web! I ble leto, in an annable conversate, let if he had had poolens, he shall have pecked up the teleplane and as ked for Erre to submit advice threat te C.D. is office. In ay event, I led but origand the CDC. as having a manageal of Erec's Units' Ervices. But it all just Slovers how sometime people are his sul

Richard Wilson, C.O.

T. A.

dti Ammyl. the department for Enterprise N OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY ce Rysilson Nicel I hope you don't mind me saying this but I thought it might have her better if this had come direct to me. We would then have referred it to Evic for advice in to normal way. There seems to me a mitz otherwise of Erics unt taking on a caparate existence & perhaps not recessarily reporting to the Chardle & to Duchy. I might add that there are my comments; the Charcello has not vaised it with me Apologies & missing to beadline in you letter! leter Smith 10/3



Sir Hector Laing, Chairman of "Business in the Community' (BIC) came to see me the other day about an idea of Stephen O'Brien's, the Chief Executive of BIC, that the Prime Minister should host at No.10 a small reception of southern based business leaders in order to interest them in the investment possibilities of Teeside. Details of what Stephen O'Brien has in mind are in his letter of 22 February, a copy of which I attach.

The Prime Minister recognises that if she holds a reception for Teeside, she may have requests for similar receptions from Tyneside, Merseyside and so on. But she regards Teeside as different, for a variety of historical and economic reasons. She thinks that we have to make a special effort to help that region with its hitherto intractable problems.

She is therefore inclined to give the reception which Stephen O'Brien seeks. I have told her that I understand from Sir Hector that all that is required is some 1½ hours of her time. The Prime Minister would like the Chancellor of the Duchy and the Ministers with particular inner city interest to be present at the reception.

Before informing Sir Hector of the Prime Minister's willingness to give such a reception, I should be glad to know that neither the Chancellor of the Duchy nor your Unit sees any difficulties here.

I should be grateful for advice by Tuesday, 8 March.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Peter Smith (Office of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster).

Nijel Wirts

(N. L. WICKS)