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ROBERT McCARTNEY QC MP
UNITED KINGDOM UNIONIST - NORTH DOWN



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DCO to file

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Kate Garvey

LONDON SWIA OAA

Prime Minister's Diary Secretary

10 Downing Street

LONDON

SW1A OAA

19 December 1997

Dear Kate,

KB 23/12.

I refer to our conversation of Tuesday 16 December 1997 about the appointment made for Mr. McCartney, the Leader of the UK Unionist Party, to discuss current issues with the Prime Minister at the House of Commons.

You will recall this meeting did not take place and was cancelled on your side. Indeed, no notice was given of the cancellation and it was only through luck and good intelligence that we were able to find out sufficient detail to make us telephone your office. You were then able to confirm that it was the Prime Minister's intention to dispense with the 3.30 p.m. meeting the next day.

As I mentioned in our conversation, Mr. McCartney was to be accompanied by Mr. Cedric Wilson, the Party Deputy Leader, and Mr. Patrick Roche, the Party Chairman. Tickets had been booked with Jersey European Airways which were of an unchangeable and non-transferable basis, at a cost of £146 return, for each person.

As we were not informed of the cancellation, we believe that it is incumbent upon your office to recompense the party for the unnecessary expenditure of £292. We would understand if some notice of the cancellation could have been given but, as you know, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday 16 December, we had still not been informed.

I hope you can oblige on this occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Que Moore

SECRETARY TO R.L. McCARTNEY QC MP

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