



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

17 December 1984

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Dear Charles,

I wrote to you on 5 December enclosing a message from the Prime Minister to be read out at a presentation ceremony in honour of two astronauts in the White House on 7 December. You will see from the enclosed letter from Sir Oliver Wright that the ceremony was a big success, and that the Prime Minister's message was very well received.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street





BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

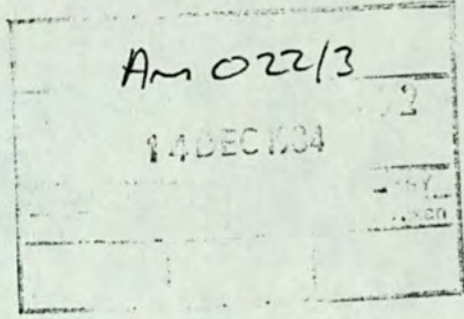
TELEPHONE: (202) 462-1340

7 December 1984

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

*h/w 17/22*

N H Marshall Esq  
North America Department  
Foreign & Commonwealth Office  
London SW1



*Dear Noel,*

LLOYD'S OF LONDON SILVER MEDAL FOR US ASTRONAUTS

1. Perhaps I should just place on record that at a ceremony at the White House at 1.00 pm today, the President presented, on behalf of Lloyd's of London, Lloyd's Silver Medal for Meritorious Services to the five astronauts who had salvaged the two lost satellites in space. The ceremony was simple, dignified and cheerful and lasted about 15 minutes.

2. It was a brilliant stroke of public relations genius for Lloyd's to have thought this up. There is no doubt at all that Lloyd's themselves had conducted a very efficient financial operation. I understood from the Chairman of Lloyd's that the loss had cost them about \$180 million; the recovery had reduced that loss by something of the order of \$60 million. But the fact that Lloyd's have entered new territory by insuring in space must, surely, stand them in very good stead for their future insurance business.

3. The ceremony opened when, at the invitation of the President, I read to the assembled press the Prime Minister's message. That message, for which Mr Peter Miller, the Chairman of Lloyd's was most grateful, was very well received. Then Mr Miller made a short but felicitous speech about Lloyd's Silver Medal and invited the President to make the presentation. The President did so with his usual cheerful charm and everything was over in about 15 minutes.

4. It was good for Lloyd's, good for Britain and good for Anglo-American relations.

Oliver Wright



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