

18 July 1998,

The Earl of Mar & Kellie,
Erskine House,
Clackmannan,
Scotland FK10 4JF

You kindly wrote to me with good wishes on my new appointment. Things remain politically turbulent, so my position is not entirely secure, however, encouraged by good friends like yourself, I remain optimistic for our beloved land, and determined to continue to do all I can in my new role to continue to build a peaceful future for our long-suffering people.

Again my thanks for your encouragement. I really do appreciate it.