



Mr Speaker

Personel

Box

Sunday.

Speaker's House Westminster London SW1A 0AA

Dear Margaret,

I am aghast & deeply concerned that some light hearted asides of mine at the Press Gallery lunch was reported by the press - & even magnified. I had been led to believe that this was "a social occasion among friends" alas, I was badly misled. & I can only apologise for the embarrassment I caused.

There were a number of Members present & some also from 4.10, I believe. - they will confirm that the thrust of my message was the importance of "action" on the floor of the Chamber rather than elsewhere & indeed I instanced Prime Minister's Questions as achieving that desirable objective. However, I accept that as reported

~~It~~ a ~~very~~ very different impression was
given & I am deeply distressed about it

The very last thing I wish is to add to
the difficulties you face & I again express
my most sincere apologies.

Yours ever.

Jack, 7/6.

This calls for a reply - but perhaps at some
appropriate moment we could meet again.