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PREM 19/1449

NEW FILE COVER

MT

A8 23

CONFIDENTIAL FILING

250th ANNIVERSARY OF PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE AT 10 DOWNING STREET.

DOWNING STREET

DECEMBER 1984

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
~~18.11.85~~							
~~22.11.85~~							
~~3.12.85~~.							
~~5.12.85~~							
12.12.85							

CLOSED

file

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

12 December 1985

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH: 250TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

I am sorry that I have not written to you before now to tell you how grateful the Prime Minister was for the fascinating notes which you sent to Charles Powell here with your letter of 25 November. The Prime Minister found this very useful background for last week's 250th Anniversary Dinner which was a great success.

You might like to see what The Queen and the Prime Minister said at the dinner and I therefore enclose copies of their speeches.

N L WICKS

Lord Thomas of Swynnerton

The National Archives

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Extract/Item details: NGW to PM dated 5.12. (1985)	
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PL KEEP ON FILE

• Prime Ministers.

1. Sir Robert Walpole
2 Lord Wilmington
3 Henry Pelham
4 Thomas Pelham Holles
4A Duke of Devonshire. 1756 - 57
5 William Pitt - the elder
6 Marquis of Bute
7 George Grenville
8 Marquis of Rockingham
9 Duke of Grafton
10 Lord North
11 The Earl of Shelburne
12 William Pitt - the younger
13 Henry Addington
14 Lord Grenville
15 Duke of Portland
16 Spencer Perceval
17 Lord Liverpool
18 George Canning
19 Lord Goderich
20 Duke of Wellington
21 Earl Grey
22 Lord Melbourne
23 Sir Robert Peel
24 Lord John Russell
25 Earl of Derby
26 Earl of Aberdeen
27 Lord Palmerston
28 Benjamin Disraeli
29 William Gladstone
30 Marquis of Salisbury

31 Earl of Rosebury
32 Arthur James Balfour
33 Campbell-Bannerman
34 Asquith
35 Lloyd George
36 Bonar Law
37 Baldwin
38 Macdonald
39 Chamberlain
40 Churchill
41 Attlee
42 Eden
43 Macmillan
44 Home
45 Wilson
46 Heath
47 Callaghan
48 Thatcher.

Mr Powell

MR. CATFORD
MR. POWELL
MR. NORGROVE
MR. FLESHER
MR. ADDISON
MS CAINES

DINNER ON WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER

I attach the outline programme for the evening, plans for the photographs, guest list and seating plan for the dining room.

Please could ushers give the names of guests to GHF staff handing out seating plans outside Cabinet Room

Sue Goodchild

4 December 1985

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 1449 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract/Item details: Dinner on Wednesday 4 December 1985 – Final Outline Programme	
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Extract/Item details: Goodchild to PM dated 3 December 1985 with attachment	
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MR. WICKS

DINNER ON WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER

I attach a revised draft programme for Wednesday evening plus the two line-ups for the photographs.

I also attach an Alternative A and B for the presentation of other guests to HM The Queen together with the order of presentation.

Also attached is a copy of the seating plan.

Sue

Ordered

2 December 1985

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 1449 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract/Item details: Dinner on Wednesday 4 December 1985 – 5th Revise Draft Outline Programme	
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10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

SPEECH AT THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Hugh Thomas' notes attached, though fascinating, do not provide much material for this speech, but I have included a few references on page 5 of the draft below.

N.L.W.

(N.L. Wicks)

27 November 1985

Robin's notes are at the end.

N.L.W

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 1449 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract/Item details: Note to PM dated 22 November 1985 with attachments.	
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SUE

Is it really 2200 hours before dinner ends and the toast can be given? Couldn't we conclude dinner by, say, 2150? What do GHF think?

NLW

21 November, 1985.

MR. WICKS

I checked with the Government Butler on the timings. He said 2200 was approximate but there were 4 courses and a number of elderly people there. He did not want it to seem rushed.

Sue

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 1449 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
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cc: Sue Goodchild

Mr. Powell
Mr. Norgrove
Mr. Flesher
Mr Addison

Apologies for asking you to take on a chore.

Could you please put on a dinner jacket on the evening of 4 December and act as equerries to look after guests as they arrive and leave for the 250th Anniversary Dinner.

The outmess will, of course be provided!

N.L.W.

N. L. WICKS

18 November 1985

Tim Yes Nigel

Nigel

I'll have to have one. Will the Office pay?

T.

cc: Sue Goodchild

Mr. Powell
Mr. Norgrove
Mr. Flesher
Mr Addison

Apologies for asking you to take on a chore.

Could you please put on a dinner jacket on the evening of 4 December and act as equerries to look after guests as they arrive and leave for the 250th Anniversary Dinner.

The outmess will, of course be provided!

N. L. WICKS

18 November 1985

The National Archives

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NOTE FOR FILE

BBC FILM OF NO 10

Robin Butler, Bernard Ingham and I viewed a rough cut version of Part 2 of the BBC film of No 10 (scheduled to be shown on 22 September) at the BBC TV Centre, Wood Lane, on 3 September.

On security grounds we requested one brief section (10-15 seconds) showing, and commenting on, the Prime Minister's flat to be excised. We were assured this would be done.

The shots of the Prime Minister's departure for PMs questions showed clearly the registration number of her car - ...317Y (I did not ask for a re-run to get the initial letters). I subsequently suggested to Ray Parker that this number should no longer be used.

Jenny Barraclough agreed we should hold the unused portions of the shots they took. We will make the necessary arrangements after the film has been shown.

P.S. Joce

P. S. JOCE

5 September 1985

noted ✓ SG. 30/8

Mrs Goodchild

The P.M. wants to cancel this now.
CR
30/8

PRIME MINISTER

250th ANNIVERSARY

You said you would like to celebrate the 250th anniversary of No.10 on Sunday 22 September, by inviting a number of NSPCC children, and some others, to tea on that day. If you agree, we shall proceed to set up the following arrangements:-

i) We should invite 25 NSPCC children, 25 Girl Guides 25 Boy Scouts. The organisations concerned would be responsible for choosing children, and arranging for them to get to No.10. They would of course need to send a few adult "minders" too.

ii) Total numbers of young people, would be 75, 25 from each of the three groups.

iii) The youngsters would be invited for tea at 1500, which would last about an hour. You might then conduct them on a tour of the house though the group would probably need to be split up; you might lead off the first contingent.

iv) The press would be invited to come in and cover the tea, but not the tour. There would be a TV crew, a photographer and a writing journalist, selected on the normal rota basis.

Content with these arrangements? If we are going to have children we should have to provide entertainment. Otherwise they get bored. I wished to think about it for late to make all the necessary arrangements

Mark Addison

Mark Addison
29 August 1985

MJ2AZH

Jpl JC

10 DOWNING STREET

Mark,

The following are contacts.

1) NSPCC -
Miss Julia Nicholson, Central Projects Organiser. Lady Howard Mansion.
242 1626.

2) Scouts.
Mr. K.H. Stevens, Chief Executive Commissioner -
584 7030

3). Girl Guides. (75th Anniversary Year)
Miss. N.W. Cameron, General Secretary.
834 6242.

4)
DES Youth Section Contact -
Mr. W. Miller - 934 9656.

cc: Mr. Joce
Miss Caines

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

I have asked Hugh Taylor in the Home Office, and DHSS, for advice on the proposal that we might celebrate No. 10's 250th Anniversary by inviting:

i) a number of children from an NSPCC home (or homes) together with some fund-raisers;

ii) a group of girl guides;

iii) a group of boy scouts. dropped in MCC. JC

They will also, if appropriate, be supplying me with the names of the relevant contacts.

MCA

Mark Addison
9 August 1985

BEMAWK

PRIME MINISTER

We never have NSPCC children close - it makes them too nervous. Always with children of parents who helpful money - or with some girl friends MT

NO. 10's 250th ANNIVERSARY

You thought it might be appropriate to celebrate No. 10's 250th Anniversary by inviting a number of children to the house.

We considered whether one way of doing this might be to invite school children from up and down the country, with their parents, to come here for a tour of the house, a press conference, and tea. On reflection, we think this approach would pose considerable difficulties:

i) It would be difficult to find a fair way of selecting a representative national sample of school children.

ii) If we relied upon those who have at some stage written in to you, and stuck to inviting them, this would be very risky since we should have no way of vetting them.

iii) If we did not pay travel costs of parents and children - especially those from a long way away - we should open ourselves to criticism and thoughtlessness; if we did pay the travel costs it could be a very expensive operation.

iv) The administrative complications would probably end up being a nightmare - they were bad enough for the 25 who came from Liverpool.

We therefore propose, as an alternative, that it might be simpler, safer, and cheaper, to invite a number of children from a NSPCC home reasonably close to London. This is widely known to be a charity you are personally attached to, we could be reasonably sure that the children would behave themselves, and you would not be open to criticism that you had failed to secure an appropriate representative sample of young people.

/We can

We can have a word about this at our diary meeting tomorrow.

Mark Addison

MARK ADDISON

8 August 1985

PM

Celebrating No 10s 250th anniversary

You have said that you wish to give some children a tour of No 10 followed by a press conference on (date)

Bernard's initial suggestion for this was based on a conversation he had with ITN in which he understood that they would be prepared to bring children to London for the day. Since then, ITN have pulled back and now say that, while they would, of course, be interested in covering the childrens' press conference as a news event, they do not want to have any closer involvement.

Given ITN's refusal to take an active role, we shall almost certainly need to involve parents in bringing at least the younger children up to London. I suggest therefore that we stick to Bernard's original idea of having 30 children, not 60, as we shall have to cope with parents as well. This will leave us with 30 children plus as many as 60 parents in No 10 on the day.

Since January 1984 press office have dealt with 73 letters to you from children. Some have asked for - and got - a message from you to mark a special occasion (eg a school anniversary, rugby tour). Some have asked to know such things as your favourite flower or food. We have replied to these on your behalf, drawing on your publicly stated preferences. But there are some children who we have not been able to help because they have sought either an interview with you or an article from you for their school magazine. There are about 20 such requests.

I suggest that we select our guests from the list of children who have written to you since the beginning of 1984, giving first priority to those who have sought an interview with you, then selecting the remainder across as wide a range of questions and geographical areas as possible.

It seems to me that we must be both fair and seen to be fair in selecting our children. The children who have written to you almost select themselves,- they have had the interest, the initiative and the plain gumption to put pen to paper and I think that their letters give us the fairest ground on which to proceed.

10 DOWNING STREET

Agree :

to confine invitations to 30 children?

that parents will have to be invited too?

that we should choose the children from amongst those who have written to you in the relatively recent past, giving first priority to those who have asked for an interview or article for their school magazine ?

10 DOWNING STREET

Spl 2C

10 DOWNING STREET

Mark

We spoke about this in the car yesterday. Here is the "masterplan"

Jon 6/8

JR.
DES? Agree ITV ind choice
Agree no caring.
— privatization.
— we all lost, private fig up lost
ITV — can we supply cash
BBTV? we — for pay
4 teachers in

MISS CAINES

CELEBRATING NO. 10'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Thank you for sending me a copy of Bernard's proposals. We had a word about this today.

To sum up what we agreed:

(i) It would be best not to pursue the idea of a school doing the catering, the timing is all wrong and the whole thing would be very complicated.

(ii) We should avoid getting into the invidious position of selecting individual schoolchildren from the regions, unless it is simply on the basis that they have written to us. I should have thought you might provide ITV with the list of all those who have written in, and ask them to arrange for the invitations to be sent out, using our list as a guide wherever possible.

(iii) Bernard will need to consider any difficulties which may arise in giving ITV a monopoly of what will turn out to be a news event.

(iv) I also agree with Robin that the conducted tour and press conference (but not in that order) is the right approach: ie this is not an occasion for the disabled.

MARK ADDISON

7 August 1985

VC4ABO

The National Archives

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Pl. file

MR ~~INGHAM~~ Yes 31/7

MR JOCE Yes 1/8.

BBC FILM OF NO. 10

Jenny Barraclough has invited us to view the film of No.10 at 10 am on Tuesday, 3 September - location to be notified. The Prime Minister is due to be in Birmingham. Can you confirm that you can manage this date please?

F.E.R.B.

30 July, 1985

I think that [illegible] should either [illegible] or College do the catering. They have excellent courses. MT

1. MR BUTLER

2. PRIME MINISTER

I am in favour of the conducted tour and press conference (though I think that the press conference should follow the conducted tour so that the children have something to ask about).

I do not think that this should be an occasion for the disabled.

I am inclined to think that the catering will not add much and will be a complication. I would drop it.

FERB 30.7

CELEBRATING NO 10's 250TH ANNIVERSARY

You have asked me to come forward with proposals for marking the 250th anniversary of No 10 as the Prime Minister's residence.

I set out the ideas below with a view to getting your agreement in principle, and for Press Office to work them up during August, reporting progress on your return.

Your objective, over and above the BBC film which is due for broadcast on September 22, is to mark the occasion in such a way as to open up the premises to the people in a less formal way than is possible in a documentary about the house.

There are three basic possibilities:

i. you yourself to conduct a group or groups of schoolchildren around the house in front of the cameras; or

ii. to give a press conference before cameras to a selected group of schoolchildren (perhaps including those who have written in over the last 18 months seeking interviews); or

iii. a party of handicapped children with professsional entertainers, though this is a bit Wilsonian;

iv. in any case to arrange for a school or a YTS course to cater modestly for the occasion, using the kitchen which would again make good pictures.

First, as you have given the BBC the privilege of doing the "official" anniversary film, I think we should accord ITV the opportunity on this occasion.

Second, I am strongly in favour of a press conference, lasting an hour, followed by a conducted tour of the house and then refreshments prepared by youngsters in the kitchen under the supervision of a teacher/instructor (perhaps liaising with Sherry Warner).

But if, as may well be the case, the teachers' strike is still on, there could be difficulty in getting schools' cooperation.

So, I have tentatively (and confidentially) canvassed opinion at ITN who I see filming any such event. They are greatly attracted to the idea editorially, and see no difficulty in principle in the 15 ITV companies bringing children to London for the day.

Thus what we need to decide is:

i. press conference/conducted tour/party for handicapped.

Yes MT

Agree press conference combined with conducted tour (for which we shall need to agree security ground rules with ITN in advance).

ii. take DES soundings about suitable schools in each of 15 regions trying where possible, but not necessarily, to match them up with requests for interviews to No 10.

Yes MT

The regions are:

Anglia; Border, Central, Channel; Grampian; Granada; HTV Wales and West; LWT; Scottish; Southern; Thames; Tyne Tees; Ulster; Westward; Yorkshire.

4 not enough

I suggest two per region, giving 30 in all - which is more than enough for the cameras to cope with.

Agree?

iii. Select a school in your Finchley constituency to provide the catering; I think it is a reasonable privilege to accord your constituents.

Agree?

You would need to do this in the window between your Middle East Tour and the Party conference.

I would like your agreement in principle by Thursday so that I may set arrangements in train with ITN.

BERNARD INGHAM

23 July 1985

REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLCHILDREN (SINCE JANUARY 1984)

NAME OF SCHOOL	CORRESPONDENTS NAME	REQUEST
Royal Russell Coombe Lane Croyden	Nawroz Abbany	PM's daily timetable
Oxclose School Washington Tyne & Wear	Julie Jenner	Advice to children about to leave school
Jordanthorpe Sheffield	Christopher Russell	Request to interview PM
King Edwards School for Girls Birmingham	Pierina Kapur and Donna Baxter	Request to interview PM
Meavy Primary School Devon	Annette Higgins	Which newspapers does PM read ?
Bebside Middle School	Louise Scott and Andrea Schollar	Request PM to write article for school magazine
Westminster School, SW1	Tom Swayne and Sam Ala	Complete questionnaire for school magazine
Burleigh Secondary School Devon	Lianne Irvine	Contribute to school magazine
Coquet High School, Amble, Northumberland	Helen Johnson	Contribute to school magazine
Northfield School for Physically Handicapped, York	Jason Riches	What is it like living at No 10 ?

REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLCHILDREN

NAME OF SCHOOL	CORRESPONDENTS NAME	REQUEST
New Hall School Chelsmsford Essex	Kate Egan	PM's view of Shirley Williams
Winton High School Eccles	Angela Pasco and Paula Goddard	How would PM spend remaining time if she knew world was ending on specific day ?
Bestwood Park Hawthorne Primary School Notts.	Ann Soar	PM's favourite recipe
Worth School Crawley	James Reynolds	PM's memories of 2nd World War
Rainham Junior School Essex	Sarah Jane Edwards	PM's favourite toy
St Margaret's Convent School, Edinburgh	Pauline Dewar	PM's favourite piece of literature
Model Secondary School for Girls, Belfast	Lesley Nicholl and Dawn Lowry	PM's wish for peoples of the world
Wistaston Green Junior School Crewe	Matthew Shore, Jason Gallimore and Andrea Arnold	PM's most embarassing moment
Beauchamp College, Oadby	Various VIth Form	PM's favourite poem
Holt Primary School, Trowbridge	Helen Fielden	Information on No 10

REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLCHILDREN

NAME OF SCHOOL	CORRESPONDENTS NAME	REQUEST
Knutsford County High School, Cheshire	Robert Jackson	Contribution to school magazine
Hazeldown School, Teignmouth	M T Sleeman (Headmaster)	Request message from PM to mark 10th anniversary of school
Auchterarder High School Perthshire	Alison McNee	PM's recollections of the War
Wrockwardine Wood School, Telford	Miss T Smith	PM's views on her media coverage
Christ's Hospital, Horsham	Spencer Wilson; E H L Hall; Miles Delap	For school mag - what is PM's favourite TV programme ? - favourite literature ?
Lochy Side Primary School, Fort William	Patricia MacLean	PM's favourite sandwich
The High School, Newry	Wendy McAnulty	PM's ambitions for school magazine
Parklands High School, Leeds	Heidi McLoughlin	Day in the life of the PM for school magazine
Queen's School, Chester	Ruth Prince	Various questions for school magazine
Fruze Platt Comprehensive School, Maidenhead	G S Fagence (Year Master)	Message for sponsored run

REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLCHILDREN

NAME OF SCHOOL	CORRESPONDENTS NAME	REQUEST
The King's School, Canterbury	Julian Foster	PM upset about being impersonated ?
Bruton School for Girls, Somerset	Kate Hoskins	Message of support for school fete
Penryn School, Cornwall	Mrs C J Rogers	PM Message for band's trip to China
Lincoln Christ's Hospital School	Peter Kerr	PM message for cricket team's trip to Pakistan
Coten End School, Warwick	Warren & Daryl Ham	PM message to celebrate centenary of their school
Colgrain Primary School	Joanne Smith and Claire McKay	Want to know PM's reading as a young girl
Durringham Comprehensive Dorrington Wilts	Alan Elkins	Request to interview PM
Stowe School Bucks	Nicholas Humbert	Request to interview PM
Windmill School	Jonathan Miller	Interview for school magazine
Herts & Essex High School	Katherine Tzonhadis	Article for school magazine
St Cadoc's Comprehensive	Neil McDermid	Request for 20th anniversary message from PM
Campbell College Belfast	Colin Dudgeon and Mark Thompson	Request to interview PM

REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM SCHOOLCHILDREN

NAME OF SCHOOL	CORRESPONDENTS NAME	REQUEST
St Dunstan's College London SE6	Various VIth Form	Message for their rugby tour
Woolmore Primary School London E14	Natasha Samuel	Wants to know PM's favourite toy
-	Robert McRobbie	Contribution for school magazine
Langley Park School for Girls	Rachel Negus (15)	Favourite poem
Coopers School Chislehurst Kent	David Turtle (VIth form)	Wants interview for school magazine
George Eliot School Nuneaton	Lorraine Brookes (15)	PM's views on womens rights
St Ambrose High School Coatbridge	Graham Beattie	Various questions
Norton C of E Primary School Gloucester	Rachel Dowding	Asks for autograph and a riddle
City of London	Simon Harris	Asks for signed photograph for MS campaign
Tewkesbury Comprehensive School	Lucie Davis	Questionnaire for school magazine
Shay Lane Infants School Crofton Wakefield	Samantha Falshaw (6)	Asks about PM's ideal garden

PERSONAL

File

10 DOWNING STREET

19 July 1985

250th Anniversary

Further to our telephone conversation earlier in the week I return the draft Chapter 11 of your book which you left with me last week. As you will see, Robin Butler has made a few manuscript comments (in addition to the two points we discussed).

PS

P. S. JOCE

C. Jones, Esq.

NOTE FOR FILE

250th Anniversary

Reference my minute dated 9 July to Robin Butler and the manuscript notes thereon.

I informed Christopher Jones about the comments made in paragraph 2. He was at first reluctant to delete either passage. I said that if he wished to publish something untrue about Wilberforce that was his decision. We did not feel strongly but thought we should make the point for the sake of accuracy. However, we did feel strongly about the reference to the label as it could be interpreted as putting the Prime Minister and/or her staff in a poor light. Jones finally agreed to look again at the particular passage. I pointed out that there was no need to re-write the paragraph but simply to delete seven or eight words.

P.S. Joce

P.S. JOCE

18 July 1985

1. Jean Caines
Provided you see no objection to Mr. Jones' making money out of the sale of these photographs more widely, I am content

Gradually, no objection
JC

MR. BUTLER

cc Miss Caines

2. Mr. Joce PJ 15/7
Some marginal comments indicated on the text.
FERB 12.7.

250TH ANNIVERSARY

original returned 19.7.85 copy with FERB's comments now attached PJ 19/7

I attach the draft Chapter 11 of Christopher Jones' book "No.10 Downing Street" which he handed to me at our meeting yesterday. He is sending a copy together with a synopsis of Chapters 1-10 to Jean Caines. Mr. Jones assures me that there is nothing in those chapters which will cause me concern.

On security grounds I have no objection to the attached draft. Leaving aside the numerous typographical errors, I think the references to Wilberforce (p2 lines 7/8) and the official label (p11 lines 8/9) should be deleted. The former is a nice story but untrue; the latter is true but best left unsaid. In fact the incident related to a chair which had recently been returned from the upholsterer. The label was removed immediately it was seen.

I agree about the label: I don't feel strongly about Wilberforce.

Christopher Jones showed me the negatives of the stills taken during the BBC visit here. On security grounds a number were not acceptable for publication. Mr. Jones said he would do his best (he was reasonably sure of success) to ensure they were not published but could give no guarantee to that effect. At my request he will try and arrange that these particular negatives are returned to me.

When I commented on the number of shots that had been taken of the BBC crew, Mr. Jones said this was common practice: they like them for their personal albums! He also went on to say that some of the photographs, especially those of the Cabinet Room might be published in the BBC house journal and in other magazines; he mentioned, for example, the house journals of shipping lines.

I had assumed that "the take" - motion and still - within No.10 would be used only in the production of the TV documentary and Christopher Jones' book and in illustrating

the relevant issue of the "Radio Times".

No objection to approved pictures being used more widely.

Are you content with the possible wide publication of the stills or do you wish to ask the BBC to restrict their use to illustrate Christopher Jones' book and the relevant issue of the "Radio Times"?

P.S. Joce

(P.S. JOCE)

9 July 1985

No.10. DOWNING STREET (C.11).

THE LADY OF THE HOUSE.

1.

The first woman tenant of No 10. Downing Street moved in on 4th May, 1979, two hundred and forty four years after it had become the official home of the First Lord of the Treasury. Mrs Margaret Thatcher was not given the keys of the door of No 10, since no Prime Minister is ever given them. There is no need. Policemen and door keepers are on duty all day every day, and no Prime Minister has ever had the indignity of fumbling for the keys of the famous front door before a crowd of interested on-lookers.

It is a door which, with its elaborate wrought iron archway in front of it, surmounted by a lantern topped by a crown, is always kept immaculately glossy and shiny. The letter box, with its inscrption "First Lord of the Treasury" is polished every morning, and so is the brass door knob below it. The lion-head door knocker, once touched for luck by troops going off to the trenches in the first world war, is dusted, and the steps kept immaculately clean. There are, in fact, two front doors for No 10. One is kept in reserve ready for the time when the one in service needs repair or repainting. Then all the fittings are carefull switched over from one to the other.

Beyond that famous front door, and its unimpressive exterior, No 10 Downing Street is a political Tardis. Like Doctor Who's time machine, the door opens onto a semingly endless warren of corridors and stairscases and rooms, and the whole confusing, rambling building is made even more complicated by the fact that the ground on which it is built slopes very steeply, so rooms at the back of the house which seem to be on the ground floor turn out to be, to the bemused visitor, on the first flor.

When the front door opens to admit famous visitors, the cameras sometimes get a quick glimpse of the hall-way beyond. The black and white marble chequered floor, first put down in the 18th century, has been restored after Victorian attempts to make it more impressive with elaborately decorated tiles, and on one corner stands a magnificen Chippendale porter's chair, hooded and upholsters in dark leather, and a favourite place from which No 10's formidable cat, Wilbeforce, inspects the comings and goings. On the right of the entrance hall is a large marble fireplace, filled with elorately arranged flowers, and here Mrs Thatcher is photographed with her more important visitors. A ten feet high long case clock, with steel and brass face, made by Benson of Whitehaven, ticks loudly against one wall. And eyeing the visitors from the wall opposite the front door, large portraits of Sir Robert Walpole himself and of the Earl of Chatham - a rather odd choise for such a prominent position since, although he was certainly Prime Minister, he never lived at No 10.

Beyond the entrance hall begins what seems to be acres of gold-coloured carpet which stretches down the endless corridors of the house; covers the floors in the ante-rooms and offices, and carries on up the confusing number of stair cases. Once all this used to be a rather grand red, but the present colour is very much in keeping with Mrs Thatcher's taste. She dislikes heavy colours and decorations, and approves of shades and patterns which give lightness and airyness to the house.

The carpet winds its way along the immense corridor that leads, eventually, to the Cabinet Room. On one side of the corridor, there are high windows; on the other portraits of actors and actresses - Ellen Terry, Garrick,

Sarah Siddons - and beyond that an Henry Moor statue in an alcove. Mrs Thatcher has arranged these as "a little art gallery," and it is one of several groups of people of interest that she has had brought into the house from galleries and museums.

In the ante-room of the Cabinet Room, Mrs Thatcher has made a small concessions about the furniture and decorations of No 10. She has allowed the brown baize to stay on the oval-ended table in the middle of the room. With her dislike of heavy colours, she has had the brown baize doors which were in No 10 when she came there replaced with others of white-painted wood and glass that were resurected from the basement, but she has allowed baize to stay on the ante-room table, because this is the room where ministers gather, sometimes in rather nervous conversation, before the Cabinet meeting. They invariably have their red boxes, full of official papers, with them and dump them down unceremoniously on the table. Rather than let such a fine piece of furniture get scratched, the Prime Minister has let the brown baize stay.

Brooding over the gathered Ministers is a large portrait of Churchill, entitled "Blood Sweat and Tears, 1942-3" by Frank O. Salisbury and beside the double doors of the Cabinet Room itself - double, so that their discussions cannot be listened to by inquisitive ears outside - a long case clock, its chiming mechanism turned to "silent", and on the left hand side the Royal cypher WIVR carved into the wood, and below it Ind Bd (for India Board,) indicating that it once kept time in another house in Downing Street where the India Board had its offices.

Like so much else about No 10, the Cabinet Room, the very centre of power and authority in Britain, is understated and undramatic. Without its immense historical connections, it would seem simply a rather large, bright and well proportioned room, light by high windows; its walls

~~covered with the same cream and silk striped wall paper used throughout much of the house~~ painted off white; three electric brass chanadliers hang ING from the high ceiling; and WITH two large book cases - ~~although~~ all that are left of the ones that used to take up much space in the room - are along one wall. ~~The centre of the room is of cream~~ Many companies have board rooms which are far more grand and expensively furnished and decorated; but none of them has, even remotely, the history that this room contains.

Dominating the room, of course, is the Cabinet table - described tactfully as boat-shaped, less tactfully as coffin-shaped. It is ~~a post war piece, placed on top of the original~~ a modern top to the original massive legs which support it. Mrs Thatcher is not enthusiastic-partly because it is covered with the dreaded brown baize, and partly because she would like to see the fine original oak table top restored to its proper place. "WE must find it," she says.

The original chairs still surround the table; the ones that the cabinets of Disraeli and Gladstone used, made of solid mahogany, with scrolls carved into the backs. There are twenty three of them round the table - the one at the end is traditionally reserved for

X the chief whip who is ~~usually~~ called into Cabinet meetings - each upholstered in tan coloured hide. Only one chair has arms; the Prime Minister's chair, from which she presides at Cabinet Meetings, sitting half way along one side of the table, infront of a fine marble fireplace, and beneath the only picture in the room. THAT PICTURE ~~It~~ is, as it certainly must be in such a place, a portrait of"Sir Robert Walpole K.G. The first Prime Minister to occupy ~~No~~ 10 Downing Street, by Van Loo." In fact, it is not the original portrait. When Walpole's pictures were sold after his death, the original went to Russia, and 'T is now in the Hermitage Museum in Lenningrad. The Cabinet Room

version is a copy either by Van Loo himself or by his studio.

In front of the Prime Minister's place at the table is a silver William IV wafer box, used now for pencils and pens, and beyond that a splendid silver candlestick, once owned by Pitt and then by Disraeli, Sir Robert Peel and Lord Rosebery and given to Mr Macmillan in 1957 for the Cabinet Room. Three other pairs of silver candle sticks (a Georgian pair was given by Lord Avon) are precisely placed at even intervals along the table; the latest pair - models of the candlesticks which stood on the table in Paris on which the Treaty ending the American war of independence was signed - was given by the US Government in July 1985 to mark 200 years of diplomatic relations. Before each seat is a leather blotter with cream blotting paper, stamped with the words:"Cabinet Room, First Lord," and with a crown and the royal cypher.

At on e end of the Cabinet Room are two large classical pillars, marking the place where the room was extended during one of the many alterations to the house. Beyond them the two book cases, with books given, over the years, by members of the Cabinet. Some are in imposing leather-bound sets; others are their own works - "The Regeneration of Britain" by Anthony Wedgewood Benn MP; Aneurin Bevan by Michael Foot; The Body Politic by Ian Gilmour. Who, one wonders, gave "God's Children with Tails" by Violet Campbell?

The Prime Minister's anti-baize campaign has not yet penitrated to the office of her Principal Private Secretary, just beyond the Cabinet Room. Once it was a waiting room next to "My Lord's Study", but now it is the office for the most senior civil servant in No 10. The baize - this time it is navy, not brown - has survived on a magnificent pair of double doors that lead into the Cabinet Room, and to one side of them is the Principal Private Secretary's desk, a marvel of Victorian mahogany solidity. A globe of the world stands in one corner, a reminder of the far flung ramifications of the work done in this imposing room, and in the room beyond, where most of the other Private Secretaries have their desks, another

reminder of the sudden dramas of international politics. Between the high windows of what the old plans show as "My Lord's Dining Room", where the Private Secretretaries now work, are three large brass ship's clocks, easily visible from each of the five heavy mahogany desks. The clock on the left hand side shows the time in the United Kingdom; in the centre the time in Washington; the clock on the right usually shows the time in Moscow, but it can be changed to anywhere in the world when a cricis blows up.

~~Unlike many Prime Ministers before her,~~ Mrs Thatcher does most of her work in her study, rather than in the Cabinet Room. Churchill and many other Prime Ministers used the Cabinet Room as their private study, but she feels more comfortable in the room that ~~Churchill and other zwsnd xazrkeirxbedrmmx~~ was once the Prime Ministerial bedroom and bathroom. Not, however, until she had had some drastic changes made. "I like things light," she says,"but when I first came here the walls of the study were covered with heavy sage green damask flock wall paper. It was opressive, but it looked as if it was going to last for another 20 years. So I had it re-done myself at my own cost." Now the sun shines in on ~~xxrmmxx~~ walls papered in pale grey strips, and on furniture upholstered in ~~ixxx~~ cream coloured damask.

In one corner of the Prime Minister's study is a magnificent Queen Anne wallnut bureau. She delights in showing it to visitors, and opening its mirrored doors to disclose more complicated doors and mirrors and drawer inside. Two small shelves pull out infront of the mirrors as stands for a pair of silver candlesticks, which then throw the reflected candle light down onto the desk. Behind the Prime Minister's own desk is a Zoffany of the Rosoman family - it used to be in the Pillared Drawing Room - and on a wall infront of the chair in which

she does much of her work, is a portrait of the young Nelson, which she had brought to her office. He is one of the Prime Minister's heroes - she has had another portrait of him put in the Blue Drawing Room - and she likes to see him shown in his prime as a young man, without his eye patch and the empty arm of his coat.

Like so much else in Downing Street, the bureau and the portrait and a great many other pictures, ornaments anf runiture do not belong there. They come from various museums and galleries, and are simply there on loan. It sounds like a housewife's dream to be able to go round the nation's finest collections, selecting anything that takes the Prime Minister's eye. But it is not, apparently, at all like that. "Oh, they will not let me have the best," says the Prime Minister. "They hide it when you go round!"

Only a few, very important visitors get as far as the Prime Minister's study, or even - and these are the most important people of all - as far as the Cabinet Room for talks with the head of the Government. The great majority of people invited to No 10 are entertained in the splendid formality of the State Rooms. To get there, they have to wind their way, sometimes in rather long and slow moving queues, up the main stair case, and past the ~~pictures~~ prints and photographs of all the other Prime Ministers on the wall. Only the last one, of Mr Callaghan, is in colour; all the rest are in black and white. As each Prime Minister departs from No 10, the pictures are slightfly re-arranged, to make room for the previous holder of the office at the very top of the stairs. Beyond ~~that~~ the stairs, there is a small landing, and the Prime Minister finally receives her guests in the Blue Drawingroom.

There are generally three large parties given every year at No 10 to wich peope in all walks of life are invited. Groups of people with special achievements - exporters, for instance - are also

invited to meet the Prime Minister, and there are endless LUNCHES and dinners for visiting politicians. Since the rebuilding of the early 60's, these events are safe and smoothly run. Before the rebuilding, members of the staff had to be stationed between the rooms to make sure that the several hundred guests at the big events moved round so that they did not overload the decidely unstable floors.

The impression that the guests receive when they first come into the State Rooms is one of subdued and carefully restrained splendour. In the evening, the massive crystal chandaliers glitter from the high ceilings, and show up the richness of the silk-covered walls. IN THE BLUE DRAWING ROOM Two George II comodes stand between the windows, which are draped in swags of silk to match the walls. To one side of the large carved marble fireplace is the portrait of Nelson that Mrs Thatcher had put there; on the other side, a portrait of the Duke of Wellington - who would HIMSELF have used the room when he lived at No 10. In one dorner is a battered, decidely rickety desk, with a much worn red leather top, which is said to have been the one used by PITT when he lived, so unceonomically at No 10. It is the only memory of his years there that still remains in the house; it is, in fact, one of the remarkably few pieces that have any connection with any of the former First Lords.

The White Drawing Room is the smallest of the State Rooms, and the most attractive. It is small enough not to be over-powering OR dauntingly formal, and to the staff it is still known as the Boudoir. In fact, it was precisely that from the first years of No 10. Lady Walpole used it as her boudoir; TWO HUNDRED YEARS LATER Lady Churchill used the room in precisely the same way. Staffordshire FIGURES of Gladstone, Beaconsfield and Wellington (all of whom lived in the house), and of Peel and Cobden

(who did not live there) are on semi-circular side tables beside the marble fireplace, and ~~the~~ AN Adam commode in satinwood and walnut stands beneath a magnificently elaborate gilded mirror. ~~In the remote and romantic days the Prince Regent lived here.~~ Three Turner landscapes are on the walls, but rather hidden away in one corner is a seascape - the only picture by Churchill in No.10.

The most splendid - and altogether the most formal and intimidating - of the three reception rooms is the Pillard Drawing Room. The two pillars at one end, ~~are, in fact,~~ HAD cleverly concealed steel supports, inserted INTO THEM in the 1960s rebuilding, and between them stand a heavily elaborate gilded and marble table by Kent, the architect who remodled the two houses for Walpole. On the floor, bearing the brunt of generations of shuffling feet, spilt drinks and trodden-in cocktail snacks, is a magnificent Persian carpet. It is a copy of a 16th century carpet in the Victoria and Albert museum, with an inscription woven into it, ~~It~~ WHICH reads;"I have no refuge in the world over they threshold. My head has no protection other than this porchway. The work of a slave of the holy place, Maqsud of Kashan in the year 926" - the Muslim date corresponding with 1520. A portrait of William Pitt, by Romney, gazes down on the guests from a large gilded frame above the fire place, and on one of the gilded side tables are silver trophies won by the Earl of Bridgewater in 1809 for Five Best South Down Hogs!

Prime Ministers have always been fond of the small dining room, and have used it both for their own family meals, and for relaxed entertaining of important guests. Mrs Thatcher has used the room ~~to display portraits and busts~~ AS A GALLERY of eminent British scientists. There is a bust of Isaac Newton, and pictures of Joseph Priestly, Humphrey Davey and Edmund Halley (by Kneller). The mahogany dining

dining table has eight chairs round it, AND ~~if~~ conversation should flag during meals ~~in the small dining room~~, the host can always get it going again ~~by~~ by pointing out the very odd architectural feature of the room. Above the fire place, where the chimney breast should be, instead, there is a large window.

Beyond the small dining room, the State Dining Room, a room as impressive as its name implies. Soane's high vaulted ceiling gives the place an air of ceremony and formality, and massive pieces of silver, brought to No 10 since Mrs Thatcher moved in, gleam on the Adam mahogany side-board and along the enormous dining table. Some of the pieces are "Speaker's Silver" - silver, that is, that ~~every~~ Speakers ONCE received for use in ~~his~~ THEIR own official house when ~~he~~ THEY took office, and which ~~he was~~ THEY WERE allowed to keep, as an extremely valuable perk when ~~he~~ THEY retired. ~~Round the table are twenty~~ REGIMENTED IN ABSOLUTE FORMALITY reproduction Adam dining chairs, made originally for the British Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, but brought back to No 10 after the Ambassy moved to the ultra-modern Brasilia. And presiding over all this splendour, a VAST portrait of George II, the man who first gave No 10 Downing Street to the First Lord of the Treasury.

~~Only the~~ Very few visitors indeed to No 10 penetrate beyond these official and formal parts of the house to the private rooms; the apartments that the Chamberlains first had made, and which have been adapted and modernised for successive Prime Ministers. These is the part of No 10 where Prime Ministers and their families can be alone, and away from officialdom. Even here, of course, their staff can come to them when there is some important development, but it is here, also, that they can relax and become, even briefly, ordinray citizens.

No.10. DOWNING STREET (C.11).

11.

Prime ~~Ministers~~ Ministers' wives have reacted very differntly to the private flat. Lady Wilson found it ~~dark~~ sunless and cut off; Mrs Callaghan found it sunny and welcoming. Mrs Thatcher has made it very much her own - and with her enthusiasm for lightness, she has ~~made~~ turned the main bedroom into her sitting room because, she ~~xx~~ thought, it was getting more sunlight.

Yet even her, in the privacy of the flat, officialdom remains. All the furniture is Government owned - some ~~xxxx~~ has the official labels still tied to it with string. No OFFICIAL domestic staff is provided, however, so the Prime Minister has made arrangements for two dailies to come in and keep the place immaculate.

For her furniture, in her sitting room the Prime Minister has chosen two two-seater settees, covered in a floral pattern of red and blue on a cream background. The cushions and curtains match, and so do the seats in the window recesses. Above one of the sofas is a Lowry townscape, "Lancashire Fair, 1946", which used to be in the Prime Minister's study, but which Mrs Thatcher had brought to her living room. Like everything else, it is Government owned.

"Its much too expensive for us," says the Prime Minister. There are, of course, some private things around;"some of the bits and pieces are mine," she says. There are family photographs on the side tables; a large plaque ~~beside~~ WITH a portrait of Mrs Thatcher, made of fine in-lay work, which was given to her when she signed the Hong Kong agreement in China in 1984. Large arrangements of flowers stand on the tables, and over the electric fire in the fireplace, there is a drawing of a head of a women by Henry Moor and signed "Fpr Margaret Thatcher." Part of her own large collection of Derby and Staffordshire china, about which she is very knowledgeable, is in a recess by one of

the windows. Much more of it is in big display cabinets in the passageway leading to the flat.

Mrs Thatcher describes it as a homely room. ~~The~~ IT IS OFFICIAL furniture ~~is official~~ but "it is nice official furniture" and they can genuinely feel at home there. ~~But~~ YET they can never forget the ~~xxxxx~~ world outside. However late the Prime Minister comes home from her ~~official~~ LONG LIST OF engagements there is always ~~a~~ MORE THAN ONE red box to be gone through before she can go to bed. Officials can come here when there is something important she ought to be told about, so she is never really ~~xx~~ off duty EVEN there. At week-ends she and her husband try to get away. "It's not very nice being here at week-ends," she says. "Somehow the whole place is a morgue. It's so terribly quiet."

The part of the private flat that does RATHER disappoint Mrs ~~xxxxxx~~ Thatcher, as a housewife, is the kitchen. And it most certainly is not grand, ~~or~~ or remotely like the ideal kitchen of the colour supplements. She calls the ~~long,~~ narrow room, with its very ordinary blue and white fittings, a "galley kitchen." "You can't eat in it," she says. "There isn't room for a table; I long for a really large kitchen where you can spend a lot of your time." The Thatcher tastes, when they are at home, are for simple meals - shepherd's pie, lasagna and chicken pie, plus meals out of the deep freeze which is stocked from a "very well known chain store." Pencils stick out of a pot on one of the work surfaces, handy for Mrs Thatcher to leave notes about needing more coffee, or clear soup or pepper.

When entertaining is done at home, and it usually for VERY close personal and political friends, the meals are in the dining room next to the kitchen. It has a table with six Hepplewhite chairs, each carved with the Prince of Wales feathers, and the food is served from a trolley with hot plates. There is a large Regency side board with

an ~~[illegible]~~ engraved glass gobelt on it. On THE GOBLET it is etched a view of No 10, and the rather mysterious inscription:"Queen Elizabeth 1575 Margaret Thatcher 1975".

The private flat at No 10 is the sort of place where a successful business man might spend his WORKING week before going off to his country home at week-ends. Like the whole of No 10, it lacks entirely the ritual grandeur with which some heads of Government surround themselves, ~~but it~~ THE OLD HOUSE was, as everyone who has lived or who works there invariably emphasi es, SOMEHOW retained the atmosphere of a home. ~~The people who work there, and many of them seem surprsingly young for such immense responsibilities,~~ THEY feel very much that they belong to a close and immensely loyal group, ~~They feel, too, that since~~ AND BECAUSE No 10 is relatively small, it means that the numbers who surround the Prime Minister must always be kept within bounds. There simply is no space in No 10 for THE DEPREDATIONS OF Parkinson's law to operate.

~~No this is a place, xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ "This place seeps into your blood," says Mrs Thatcher. "It becomes part of your life. It is, above a l a home - a d it is a house of history."

THE END.....

The National Archives

DEPARTMENT/SERIES PREM 19 PIECE/ITEM 1449 (one piece/item number)	Date and sign
Extract/Item details: Butler to PM dated 18 June 1985 with attachment	
CLOSED FOR .....YEARS UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	
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PIECE/ITEM ……*49*……
(ONE PIECE/ITEM NUMBER ONLY)

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Pl. file

PRIME MINISTER

BBC FILM: 250th ANNIVERSARY OF NO. 10

The BBC are hoping to film the High Commissioners passing through the garden and the reception involving the children upstairs on Saturday.

As you know, they did not manage to get any film of Mr. Thatcher with you in the Flat. They will hope to get some film of him in the State Room on Saturday morning; but they would also like - if you and he agreed - to get some film of him in the Flat. Would you and he agree to have some film of you taken together in the Sitting Room of the Flat, either before or after lunch on Saturday (at the cost of having the lights again temporarily set up in the Sitting Room while you are out at the Trooping the Colour on Saturday morning)?

Second, the BBC have asked whether you would be prepared to wear the portable microphone again so they can get some conversation between you and one or two High Commissioners on Saturday morning. They say that the results using the portable microphone are much better than those using the hand-held microphone. Would you be willing to wear the portable microphone for part of the reception? Yes mt

(I think that you have done the BBC very well and, if the answer to either or both of these questions is no, I shall have no scruples in explaining it to the BBC).

F.E.R.B.

12 June 1985

FRONT DOOR

POLICEMEN

DETECTIVES

MR JOCE

MR TAYLOR

DUTY CLERK

At 11.30 am on Friday, 7 June, the following TV crew will arrive from BBC in transit van reg no LC 87 W:

Jenny Baraclough	-	Director
Sally Benge	-	Assistatn
Godfrey Johnson	-	Cameraman
Paul Carter	-	Assistant cameraman
Ron Keightley	-	Sound recordist
Ron Stevenson	-	Lighting.

WHEN THEY ARRIVE, WOULD YOU PLEASE CONTACT MR JOCE. HE WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE THROUGHOUT.

They will be filming one shot in the Street and one shot of the Street from the FCO. They will then enter the building and go, with Mr Joce, to Robin Catford's room.

They will leave the building by 12.30 pm to avoid clashing with our foreign visitor, or, be held within the building until the visitor is safely away from the region of the front door/ Downing Street. Again, Mr Joce will keep a check.

Beth Frier

BETH FRIER
PRESS OFFICE

6 June 1985

FILMING WITH P.M. ON 24TH MAY

SCHEDULE

1130	Light apartment and film aspects not involving P.M.
1230	Finish
1500	Film P.M. in apartment - in sitting-room and kitchen and anywhere else she would like included. With Carol if possible.
	Light study between 1500 and 1600.
1545-1600 approx.	Film P.M. in study
1645 approx.	Film P.M. walking down main staircase
1700	Finish (or earlier)

CONTENT (subject, of course, to P.M.'s agreement)

1. APARTMENT

a) In sitting-room: P.M. relaxing - writing or reading or moving around arranging photos, objects etc. - whatever she would prefer.

b) Interview with P.M., in sitting-room, on NO.10 as a family home and the advantages and disadvantages of 'living above the shop'.

c) P.M. and, we hope, Carol in kitchen (Carol possibly making herself a snack, P.M. possibly checking store cupboard - again whatever she would feel comfortable doing). Informal chat about coping with domestic arrangements and caring for family despite Prime Ministerial pressures. The additional obligations on a P.M. who is also a woman - including the planning of appropriate outfits etc.

d) Any other aspect of the flat the P.M. would like included.

2. THE STUDY

a) The P.M. working on papers, on phone.

b) Interview with P.M. on NO.10 as official residence and working unit. Thoughts on NO.10 under previous P.M.'s, any changes or adjustments made by present P.M. in decor or working practice, the P.M.'s personal feeling for the building and sense of its history.

Cont./ ...

3. STAIRS

P.M. walking from study and down stairs.

I do hope all this will be acceptable.

Jenny

Jenny Barraclough

(Note: We'd be very pleased if we could film Carol arriving at No.10, possibly just before our 1500 filming in the apartment.)

PRIME MINISTER cc: Miss Caines

BBC FILM ON 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO. 10
1500-1700 ON FRIDAY 24 MAY

You have allocated two hours for your participation in the BBC film tomorrow afternoon. The BBC want to divide it between film in the Flat and film in the Study. They will be lighting the Flat between 1130 and 1300 hours when you will be downstairs. It would be convenient to them for purposes of continuity if you were to wear the same dress as for the piece on Questions on Tuesday: the blue dress with the brocade at the top - forgive amateur male description!

In the Flat they would like shots of you:-

(a) Relaxing, reading, working or moving around photos or furniture (whatever you prefer) in the Sitting Room;

(b) An interview with you in the Sitting Room on No.10 as a family home, and the advantages and disadvantages of "living above the shop";

(c) Some domestic activity with Carol in the Kitchen (Carol possibly making herself a snack and you checking the store cupboard - again whatever feels natural);

(d) Some informal chat about coping with domestic arrangements and looking after the family, despite Prime Ministerial pressures. The additional pressures on a Prime Minister who is a woman, including the planning of clothes, etc.

Jenny Barraclough has let drop that she will ask you if they could have a picture of you in the bedroom at your dressing table. We all hope you will not agree to this: may I tell her beforehand that it is not on?

In the Study they would like shots of you:-

(a) Sitting at your desk working on papers or speaking on the phone;

(b) An interview with you on No. 10 as an official residence and working unit. Your recollections of it under previous Prime Ministers. The changes and adjustments which you made in the decor and working practices. Your personal feeling over the building and the sense of its history.

Finally, they would like a picture of you walking from the Study and down the stairs.

F.E.R.B.

23 May 1985

PRIME MINISTER

c. Mr. Alison
Miss Caines

250th Anniversary of No. 10 : BBC filming on Tuesday 21 May.

This is just to remind you that you are involved in just two short sequences of the BBC film tomorrow.

They want to take the first minute or two of your lunchtime briefing meeting for Questions at 1300 and they want to film you leaving for Questions at 1430. They will not need to put up lights in the study and should not take more than a couple of minutes at 1.00 pm.

For the purposes of continuity, Mrs Barraclough has said that if it were possible for you to wear the same dress tomorrow as when they film you on Friday that would be helpful.

F.E.R.B.

MT

20 May 1985

PRIME MINISTER

E(LF) MEETING ON MONDAY: BBC FILM

This is to remind you that Jenny Barraclough and her team will be taking their sequence of Ministers assembling in the Ante-Room and of the opening of a meeting in the Cabinet Room at the start of E(LF) at 1000 hours on Monday. (For this reason we have arranged that the meeting on teachers' pay at 0900 hours takes place in the White Drawing Room).

Jenny Barraclough wants to take some shots of Ministers waiting in the Ante-Room. She would then like a shot of you coming down the stairs, through the Ante-Room into the Cabinet Room and then the opening of the meeting.

I suggest that you open the meeting by asking the Lord President to report on the position reached on the Abolition Bill - this will give away no secrets. There will be a microphone on the Cabinet table between you and the Lord President.

After a minute or two, the BBC team should have got all they need: they will withdraw and, while they are doing so, the screen and projector for the Secretary of State's presentation on the rating system will be brought in. This should not take more than a couple of minutes.

The Ministers attending the meeting have all been warned about what is going to happen.

F.E.R.B.

17 May 1985

FRONT DOOR

POLICEMEN

DETECTIVES

MR JOCE

MR TAYLOR

DUTY CLERK

On Monday, at 8.45 am, the following team will arrive from BBC:

Jenny Barraclough	-	Producer
Sally Benge	-	Assistant Producer
Christopher Jones	-	Reporter
Robert Hill	-	Stills photographer
Jim Peirson	-	Cameraman
Colin Case	-	Assistant Cameraman
Ron Keightley	-	Sound
Ron Stevenson	-	Lighting
Frank Moran	-	Lighting
Terry McGuinness	-	Lighting
Mike MacCauskey	-	Lighting.

They will be arriving in two vans:

McGuinness Lighting Van	-	EHX114V
BBC transit van	-	WLW509X.

The lighting men will come into No 10, set up and leave. They will return to dismantle the equipment and remove it.

Jean Caines will be in attendance throughout. All queries should be directed to her.

Beth

BETH FRIER
PRESS OFFICE

17 May 1985

c LPO
HO
DES
SO
WO
DOE
DHSS
DTI
CS,HMT

D/TRANSPORT
CDL
MS,DOE
+below

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

15 May 1985

E(LF) MEETING: 1000 on MONDAY 20 MAY

To mark the 250th anniversary this year of 10 Downing Street becoming the Prime Minister's residence, the Prime Minister has agreed to the BBC's making a documentary programme about the house, its history and the part which it plays in Government today.

One of the activities of which the BBC want to make a short sequence of film is Ministers assembling for a meeting and a meeting starting in the Cabinet Room. The Prime Minister has agreed that the BBC may take some film for this purpose before the E(LF) meeting on Monday 20 May. There will be a BBC film and sound crew to film Ministers assembling in the ante room on Monday morning and the opening minutes of the meeting.

The Prime Minister will want to open the meeting on a subject unconnected with the real business of the meeting, probably by asking the Lord President to report on the situation reached in the House of Lords' consideration of the abolition bill. The BBC have been told that they will only be allowed a few minutes filming and will have to withdraw quickly so that the business of the meeting is not delayed.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of E(LF), Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury), Leigh Lewis (Office of the Minister without Portfolio), Alex Galloway (Paymaster General's Office), Mike Bailey (Mr Baker's Office), Stuart Lane (Office of the Minister of State, Department of Employment), Barbara Jones (Office of the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of the Environment) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

RB

Miss Janet Lewis-Jones,
Lord President's Office.

37
to

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

9 May, 1985.

Thank you for your letter of 2 May. All that looks fine. In using your spare half hours, you will need to see that you do not bump into something else which is going on in the house, but your Press Office mentor and Peter Joce will advise you on that.

On the rest of the programme, two steps forward and one step back. The steps forward are that the Prime Minister has agreed to carry a portable microphone for part of the Export Day Reception on 15 May. She has also agreed that you should take a shot of her working in the study, and the best opportunity for this which would also fit interestingly into your sequence on Parliamentary Questions Day, would be to take a picture of the working lunch which she has every Tuesday and Thursday to prepare for Questions. A good day for this would be Tuesday, 21 May, when you are anyway filming her leaving the house for Questions. This is another occasion which will have to be done with the maximum of speed and, I hope, a minimum of lighting, so as not to interfere with actual work.

The step back is that Mr. Thatcher cannot after all be present for the filming of the flat on 24 May, and I suggest that we revert to the timing of 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on that day.

There is also a complication about the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Monday, 21 May, because there will be some "untypical" equipment required for that meeting - a screen and projector - which could interfere with your lighting. Perhaps we could have a word about that nearer the time when we know precisely what is involved.

(F.E.R. Butler)

Mrs. Jenny Barraclough

cc

PRIME MINISTER

cc Jean Caines

250th Anniversary Film on No. 10

May I consult you on two further points about the film:-

(i) There is something to be said for showing the State rooms being used for a reception for British people and this could be done by taking some film of the Export Day reception on 15 May. Jenny Barraclough thinks that she could only make this sufficiently different from the reception for the Canadian Prime Minister if she could include some conversation between you and some of the businessmen and this would involve your wearing a portable microphone for part of the time. Would you be willing to do this? Yes mt

(ii) Jenny Barraclough would also like a shot of you in the study. The most interesting shot would probably be of your preparing for Questions over a working lunch. Would you be agreeable to allowing the BBC to take a shot of the working lunch on Tuesday 21 May when they will also be filming you leaving for Questions?

Yes mt

F.E.R.B.

8 May 1985

BBC tv

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
KENSINGTON HOUSE RICHMOND WAY LONDON W14 OAX
TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781
TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

Pl. copy to
Jean Lainer
Peter Joce

FERB

2nd May 1985

Dear Robin,

Thank you for yourletter of 29th April. I'm very glad the filming schedule has met with approval and the amendments you suggest seem very sensible.

It occurs to me that there are bound to be occasions when we find we have a spare half-hour or so. May I take it that, after consultation with our press office guide, we may use the time to get ahead with filming some of the historical detail (close-up's of paintings etc.)?

Another thought which need not really concern you is that the afternoon of Tuesday 21st May looks a better time to do some exteriors, and I will be in touch with Peter Joce and the Parks Police about that.

We're delighted to hear that Mr. Thatcher and Carol will probably be with us on May 24th.

Everything went very well on Monday night and my thanks to everyone for their help.

Yours sincerely,

p.p. Jenny Barraclough
Senior Producer

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1

Downing St Dec 84

250th Anniversary

MR BUTLER

Pl. put on file about 250th anniversary of No. 10

BBC FILMING OF NO 10

After some negotiation the arrangements agreed with the BBC for filming the reception and dinner are as below. A Canadian film crew will be present at the same locations, most of which are static.

(a) Mr Mulroney's arrival. No photocall in the Entrance Hall, but there will be a mass of photographers in the street expecting a doorstep shot of the Prime Minister greeting her guest.

(b) The Reception line in the Blue Room. On Mr Taylor's advice I have assumed that the reception line, with Mr Thatcher and Mrs Mulroney, will be in front of the fireplace in the Blue Room. The two cameras will be positioned on the window side of the doorway to the pillared room, which will give them a good view of the line. At some point they will both briefly move to the other side of the doorway to get a different angle on the same scene. This will be their only change of position. They will not be allowed to roam. There will be static lights on throughout.

(c) The Reception. The two crews will be positioned inside the Pillared Room, near the door to the small dining room, with the intention of filming a small part of the reception and the movement of the guests into the Dining Room. Their static lights will be switched on throughout.

(d) The Dinner. The BBC want to film the Prime Ministers going into dinner, and of them arriving in the Dining Room. To do this they will film them walking across the Pillared Room towards the small dining room, and will then retreat in front of them to the large dining room. The BBC crew

crew will flatten themselves into the left-hand corner of the Dining Room (as you enter), to catch their entrance. The Prime Ministers will therefore pass within 2-3 feet of their camera. The Canadian crew will be on the right of the door. Both crews will do quick general shots - from the door - of the guests seated, and then leave. Unfortunately they need static lights, and these will probably have to be left in position when switched off.

The BBC consider that they will not intrude too much, and I have told them that they must remain in one position in each room, they cannot roam around.

Iain Murray

IAIN R MURRAY
PRESS OFFICE

30 April 1985

file

PCL

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

29 April 1985

Dear Jenny,

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

Thank you for your letter of 23 April enclosing the schedule of filming. I have consulted everybody about this, and there are some minor amendments which we need to suggest, as follows:-

Wednesday 15 May

The Prime Minister will be receiving the Export Day guests in the Blue State Room upstairs rather than in the Hall.

Friday 24 May

This is not a good day to film Michael Alison and Stephen Sherbourne, or preparation for Questions, since the following week is Parliamentary Recess and there will not be much genuine activity in either office. Could we put Tim Flesher and the Parliamentary Section in on the morning of Friday 31 May instead when they will be preparing for the following week and substitute on Friday 24 May the Garden Rooms and Correspondence Section, thus leaving Wednesday 29 May free? I am discussing with Michael Alison an alternative time to take some shots of him and the Political Office, but this should be easy to put in.*

The good news is that on the afternoon of Friday 24 May, Mr Thatcher hopes to be back in Downing Street at about 1700 and so could take part in the filming in the Flat: Carol Thatcher may also be about that day. I suggest therefore that we might start the two hours at 1600 and run to 1800.

I enclose a revision of the schedule containing these amendments, which I hope will be convenient for you.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Butler

* Michael Alison has suggested the latter part of the morning of Monday 20 May and I have added that to the schedule.

Mrs Jenny Barraclough

BBC FILMING SCHEDULE

TUESDAY APRIL 30TH

1430	Arrive and set up lights Film dinner preparations
2015	Greeting of Prime Minister of Canada in hall Guests along corridor and up to pillared drawing-room Guests into Dining Room Start of dinner

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY

1830	Export Day Reception in pillared drawing-room, P.M. with guests and general shots guests

MONDAY 20TH MAY

1015	Cabinet Committee members arriving in hall and walking to Cabinet Room
1030	Cabinet and P.M. in Cabinet Room, start of meeting and speedy withdrawal
1130	Political Office - Michael Alison and Stephen Sherbourne
1430	Robin Catford and Bishop Stuart Blanche

TUESDAY 21ST MAY

1000	Press Office
1100	Lobby Correspondents' Briefing followed by more press office activity
p.m.	P.M. leaving for Question Time

WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY

a.m.	Policy Unit meeting
	Caroline Ryder and diary) Mark Addison + letters) - or after lunch
p.m.	Principal Private Secretary, Robin Butler, and Private Secretary for Overseas Affairs, Charles Powell Private Office general activity including, we hope, all Private Secretaries

WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY Continued

1820	P.M. leaving for audience with Queen

THURSDAY 23RD MAY

NO FILMING INSIDE NO.10, POSSIBLE EXTERIORS

FRIDAY 24TH MAY

a.m.	Garden room: general activity Janice Richards Secretaries in Correspondence Section
1430	Set up for P.M.
1600-1800	P.M. in her apartment and office

TUESDAY 28TH MAY

Early start	Cleaning ladies, clock winder, plant people, garden, cat, ducks, general domestic activities. Peter Taylor

THURSDAY 30TH MAY

Historical aspects including pictures, photographs, furniture etc.

FRIDAY 31ST MAY

a.m.	Tim Flesher, Parliamentary Affairs, preparing P.M.'s statement and answers for Question Time with Nicky Roach
p.m.	Robin Catford and Wendy Baron

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE

Trooping of the Colour

JULY

Garden Party in garden of No.10

MR BUTLER

cc Miss Caines

Film on the 250th Anniversary of No 10

The schedule, as amended, attached to your minute dated 24 April is acceptable to me. However, on a point of detail I understand that the Prime Minister will not greet the Canadian Prime Minister in the hall in the evening (30 April).

I have already arranged to discuss with Jenny Barraclough next Tuesday afternoon those parts of the building which should not be filmed. I will also talk to her about her proposal to use a crane for the external shots.

We shall need to monitor very closely the film team's activities on the afternoon of 22 May.

P.S. Joce.

P S JOCE

25 April 1985

MR ALISON

A little inconvenient – as part. may have risen for what reason, I may be away! Any other Friday on offer?

MA 24/4

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

Jenny Barraclough is hoping to take a shot of you and Stephen Sherbourne at work in your office on the morning of Friday 24 May. Could you please let me know whether this would be convenient?

F.E.R.B.

Pl. file

Michael

Would the latter part of the morning of Monday 20 May suit you and Stephen? (It would involve your coming out of the E(LF) meeting for a few minutes).

FERB 25.4.

25 April 1985

Monday 20 fine for me.

MA 28/4

Prime Minister (2)

BBC

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
PRESS GALLERY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1
TELEPHONE 01-222 9586 or 01-219 4765

24th April 1985

R25

The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1

Dear Prime Minister,

May I, on behalf of Jenny Barraclough, our camera crew and myself, thank you very much indeed for your enthusiastic cooperation with us at No.10 this afternoon.

The interview will, of course, play a major part in our programme, and I am sure there will be intense public interest in the details you told us about both your private life in Downing Street and your great sense of the historical background to such a famous house. May I thank you also for allowing us to film so extensively throughout No.10 and for giving us the privilege to show the public how such a famous institution works. We are most grateful.

Yours Sincerely,

Christopher Jones

Christopher Jones,
Parliamentary Correspondent

MT

Downing St: 250th Anniv

12/84

Mr. Butler.
I have informed all concerned. Thank you.
20/4/85.

MR TAYLOR

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

As we discussed on Monday, Jenny Barraclough is hoping to make an early start with you on Tuesday 28 May and film the cleaning ladies, clock winder, plant people, and other domestic activities. Could you please confirm that this would be convenient and that you will warn the people concerned?

F.E.R.B.

24 April 1985

MISS CAINES

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

Here is Jenny Barraclough's schedule. I am making sure that it is convenient to those mentioned in it. Subject to your views and those of Peter Joce, I propose to agree it as a provisional basis of working, subject to the amendments I have indicated.

F. E. R. BUTLER

24 April 1985

MR POWELL

MR TURNBULL

MR FLESHER

MR ADDISON

MRS RYDER

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

Jenny Barraclough is hoping to take shots of activity in the Private Office in the latter part of the morning of Wednesday 22 May and the afternoon, when the Prime Minister is out addressing the Women's Conference. Could you please let me know if you see any difficulty about this?

F.E.R.B.

24 April 1985

MR POWELL
MR TURNBULL
MR FLESHER
MR ADDISON ✓
MRS RYDER

Robin
OK. What are the guidelines Ms B is now working to?
MCA 24/4

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

Jenny Barraclough is hoping to take shots of activity in the Private Office in the latter part of the morning of Wednesday 22 May and the afternoon, when the Prime Minister is out addressing the Women's Conference. Could you please let me know if you see any difficulty about this?

E. E. R. BUTLER

24 April 1985

MR CATFORD

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

This is to confirm that Jenny Barraclough is hoping to take film of you and Bishop Blanche at 1430 on Monday 20 May and of you and Wendy Baron on the afternoon of Friday 31 May. Please confirm that this is convenient? I will leave it to you to warn Bishop Blanche and Wendy Baron in advance and clear it with them.

F. E. R. BUTLER

24 April 1985

MR REDWOOD

FILM ON THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

This is to confirm that Jenny Barraclough is hoping to take some shots of a Policy Unit meeting at 1030 am on Wednesday 22 May. You kindly said that you would arrange the meeting for that morning. Could you please confirm that this is convenient to you?

You will need to be very careful indeed about what is said while the microphones are "listening". You may like to have a word about this before 22 May.

F. E. R. BUTLER

24 April 1985

BBC tv

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
KENSINGTON HOUSE RICHMOND WAY LONDON W14 OAX
TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781
TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

Tuesday 23rd April 1985

Dear Robin,

Enclosed is the schedule as we discussed it yesterday. I do hope it suits all the people concerned and I am most grateful to everyone for their help in enabling us to use our time so efficiently.

Perhaps I should also mention that we will be doing quite a bit of exterior filming of the building and the 23rd May could be a good day for that. We will need to use a crane so no doubt I should alert Peter Joce.

As far as the Canadian dinner is concerned, after a rather disconcerting 'phone call from Ian Murray, I will ask my cameraman to keep his distance and to take the minimum number of shots necessary to make a reasonable sequence. We will then, as with the Cabinet Room, beat a speedy retreat. Please have faith!

Would you please let the Prime Minister know that we very much appreciate her giving us two hours on the 24th and look forward to filming her. (Incidentally, as far as the radio mike at the Reception is concerned, apparently she wore one for the "Palace of Westminster" filming, so there's probably no need to broach it in advance.)

Finally, thank you for your personal help and support - be assured that we will do our utmost to see that everything runs as smoothly and unobtrusively as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny

Jenny Barraclough
Senior Producer

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1

Enc.

BBC FILMING SCHEDULE

TUESDAY APRIL 30TH

1430	Arrive and set up lights Film dinner preparations
2015	Greeting of Prime Minister of Canada in hall Guests along corridor and up to pillared drawing-room Guests into Dining Room Start of dinner

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY

1830	Export Day ~~guests greeted in hall~~ Mal Reception in pillared drawing-room, P.M. with guests and general shots guests

MONDAY 20TH MAY

1015	Cabinet Comm. members arriving in hall and walking to Cabinet Room
1030	Cabinet and P.M. in Cabinet Room, start of meeting and speedy withdrawal
1430	Robin Catford and Bishop Stuart Blanche

TUESDAY 21ST MAY

1000	Press Office
1100	Lobby Correspondents' Briefing followed by more press office activity
p.m.	P.M. leaving for Question Time

WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY

a.m.	Policy Unit meeting
	Caroline Ryder and diary) Mark Addison + letters) - or after lunch
p.m.	Principal Private Secretary, Robin Butler, and Private Secretary for Overseas Affairs, Charles Powell Private Office general activity including, we hope, all Private Secretaries
1820	P.M. leaving for audience with Queen

THURSDAY 23RD MAY

NO FILMING INSIDE NO.10, POSSIBLE EXTERIORS

FRIDAY 24TH MAY

a.m.	~~Political Office - Michael Allison & Steven Sherbourne~~
	Tim Flesher, Parliamentary AFfairs, preparing PM's statement and answers for Question Time with Nicky Roach
1430	Set up for P.M.
1~~5~~6 00 - 1~~7~~8 00	P.M. in her apartment and office

TUESDAY 28TH MAY

Early start	Cleaning ladies, clock winder, plant people, garden, cat, ducks, general domestic activities. Peter Taylor

WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY

a.m.	Garden room: general activity Kay Dover Secretaries in Correspondence Room

THURSDAY 30TH MAY

	Historical aspects inc. pictures, photographs, furniture etc.

FRIDAY 31ST MAY

a.m.	As for 30th May
p.m.	Robin Catford and Wendy Baron

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE

Trooping of the Colour

JULY

Garden Party in garden of No.10

BBC FILMING SCHEDULE

TUESDAY APRIL 30TH

1430	Arrive and set up lights Film dinner preparations
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WEDNESDAY 22ND MAY

a.m.	Policy Unit meeting
	Caroline Ryder and diary) Mark Addison + letters) - or after lunch
p.m.	Principal Private Secretary, Robin Butler, and Private Secretary for Overseas Affairs, Charles Powell Private Office general activity including, we hope, all Private Secretaries
1820	P.M. leaving for audience with Queen

THURSDAY 23RD MAY

NO FILMING INSIDE NO.10, POSSIBLE EXTERIORS

FRIDAY 24TH MAY

a.m. ~~Political Office - Michael Allison & Steven Sherbourne~~

Tim Flesher, Parliamentary AFfairs, preparing PM's statement and answers for Question Time with Nicky Roach

1430 Set up for P.M.

1~~5~~6 00 - 1~~7~~8 00 P.M. in her apartment and office

TUESDAY 28TH MAY

Early start Cleaning ladies, clock winder, plant people, garden, cat, ducks, general domestic activities.
Peter Taylor

WEDNESDAY 29TH MAY

a.m. Garden room: general activity
Kay Dover
Secretaries in Correspondence Room

THURSDAY 30TH MAY

Historical aspects inc. pictures, photographs, furniture etc.

FRIDAY 31ST MAY

a.m. ~~As for 30th May~~

p.m. Robin Catford and Wendy Baron

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE

Trooping of the Colour

JULY

Garden Party in garden of No.10

RANAJV

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

19 April 1985

Many thanks for your letter of 17 April. I am much re-assured by its contents and am grateful to you for fitting in the bulk of the filming in the week beginning 27 May.

I am grateful also to your agreeing that I can see the film when it is finished and ask for changes if there is any unintentional misrepresentation or inaccuracy (or, of course, on security grounds). I entirely take the point which you make of operating on a basis of mutual trust, and I am sure that we can. As long as I have this safeguard for members of the staff, I am confident that I will only have to use it sparingly if at all, and I am equally confident that you will find that we are not unnecessarily fussy.

I look forward to meeting you to fix the details of the filming schedule.

RB

Mrs Jenny Barraclough

Fine by me

MR INGHAM

cc Miss Caines
Mr Joce

I have now received a further letter from Jenny Barraclough.

I attach a copy, together with a draft reply and a minute which I am proposing to put to the Prime Minister, subject to your advice.

Peter Joce tells me that he will be in the office in the week beginning 27 May to supervise the film crew. I do not want to stop anybody from taking leave that week but I take it that there will also be a Press Officer who could be on hand?

F.E.R.B.

19 April, 1985

BBC tv

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

KENSINGTON HOUSE RICHMOND WAY LONDON W14 OAX

TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781

TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

17th April 1985

Dear Robin,

Thank you for your letter. I well understand your concern both about the staff at No.10 and about the timing of the filming.

On the question of the timing, it'll be no problem at all to move the bulk of the filming to the week of 27th May - I can see it makes excellent sense to film while parliament is in recess. Of course, we won't be a ble to fit all our filming in that week, but I'm sure you'll be able to advise me of days during the earlier part of May when we can film without causing disturbance. Some of the sequences - for example, the appointments office or the policy unit - can probably be shot without us being too much in evidence. With regard to Robin Catford, I think you're absolutely right and have already spoken to him about setting up a less contrived sequence along the lines you suggest.

On the question of the overall shape of the programme, I don't think our views are essentially divergent. As you yourself suggest, the fact that our dealings have been almost entirely to do with filming the working of No.10 today has tended to overemphasise that aspect. We are, of course, also putting a lot of effort into photographic and archival film research as well as interviews with people outside No.10 which we, like you, consider essential elements. It is important to realise, however, that, as with the "Palace of Westminster" series, we must use contemporary film - whether a dinner, a reception, a cabinet meeting or a function of the Private Office - to illustrate not only life in No.10 today but also the No.10 of the past, and to demonstrate both continuity and change. In this sense, I'm sure you will agree there is no real separation between 'people' and 'building'.

I quite understand your concern to safeguard the interests of the staff at No.10 who are being good enough to take part in the filming; and of course I must agree that you should see the film when it is finished in case there should be any unintentional misrepresentation or inaccuracy which you would like changed. However, I do hope that we can operate on a basis of mutual trust because, as you no doubt realise, an enormous amount of work goes into a film between the shooting and the finished product, which I cannot lightly jeopardise. Having said that, I'm sure you wouldn't want anything changed unless it was absolutely necessary and comments on accuracy in the script are always very helpful.

Cont./ . . .

Perhaps we could meet in the near future to finalise filming dates. We will ring your office to arrange an appointment. As we are now delaying some of the filming that does not involve the Prime Minister, if it were possible to film the cabinet meeting or the Prime Minister and her family sometime between the 15th and 27th May, it would be very helpful as I have the crew booked for that period. However, I know how busy the Prime Minister is and will of course be content to film at whatever time you feel will yield the best results.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Barraclough

Jenny Barraclough
Senior Producer

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1

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I look forward to meeting you to fix the details of the filming schedule.

Mrs Jenny Barraclough

PRIME MINISTER

BBC TV PROGRAMME ON 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO.10

We are now well advanced with discussions with Jenny Barraclough and Christopher Jones who are producing the programme on the 250th Anniversary of No.10; and we have arranged that most of the filming inside the building will be done during the Whitsun Recess when you will not be involved and it should not cause disruption to the working of the office. The purpose of this minute is to clear with you the occasions in which you will be involved.

You agreed that the BBC could take some film of you in the flat. The most convenient day for that looks like Friday, 24 May, the day before the Whitsun Recess starts. The only snag about that is that Mr Thatcher (whom the BBC would have liked to have included in the domestic part of the film) will not be in London. However, you might like to see whether Carol would be available to be present in the flat with you for the filming. Agree to set aside two hours on Friday, 24 May?

Secondly, we agreed that the BBC could film the "behind the scenes" activity in receiving an overseas visitor, including your waiting in the hall and the receiving line of guests. We can fit this in conveniently with the dinner for the Prime Minister of Finland on Tuesday, 21 May. Agree?

Finally, the BBC want a shot of a meeting in the Cabinet Room. I suggest that they might film people assembling and the opening minute or two of the meeting of E(LF) to discuss local government finance on Monday, 20 May. The review of local government finance is public knowledge and we could ensure that the words spoken before the cameras left the room were anodyne. Agree?

There may be one or two other pieces of filming which the makers of the film will want, e.g. on the day of the Trooping

of the Colour or the Private Secretaries' party in the garden, but I hope that these will be very limited.

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Martin Sawer (Duty Clerk)
pp. F.E.R.B.

19 April, 1985

BBC tv

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

KENSINGTON HOUSE RICHMOND WAY LONDON W14 OAX

TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781

TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

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Yours sincerely,

Jenny Barraclough

Jenny Barraclough
Senior Producer

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1

Downing St. : 250th anniversary
12/84

BBC tv

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
KENSINGTON HOUSE RICHMOND WAY LONDON W14 0AX
TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781
TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

2nd April 1985

F. E. R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1

Dear Mr. Butler,

Jenny Barraclough asked me to thank you for your letter which she has read carefully.

She will be in touch as soon as she gets back to the office.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Benge
Assistant to
Jenny Barraclough

File MJ2AGP

10 DOWNING STREET

28 March 1985

From the Principal Private Secretary

Thank you for your letter of 19 March.

I gather that you are going to be away for a fortnight from this weekend and we can discuss some of the detail in your letter when you return. But let me give you some initial reactions.

First, I realise that your letter deals with just one aspect of the programme. But I am still concerned that we may not be at one about the overall purpose. The invitation was to make a programme about the house and its history. We have agreed that this should also include some shots of its present day use. But the focus of the programme should be on the house rather than on the activities which go on in it or the people that work there. I hope that you will tell me that you accept this because, if you do not, we will be at odds throughout and it would be better not to go ahead at all on a false basis.

Second, you will understand that, if the staff here are to help by allowing themselves to be filmed, I must protect them against the criticism or derision of the political world in which we live. I fully accept that you will be anxious to avoid that and will want to build up people's confidence that you will show their activities in a constructive and uncontroversial light. But I am sure that you will understand that I cannot simply rely on that. I also have to worry about accidental breaches of security. Could we therefore be clear at this stage that you will not use on the programme any film taken inside the house which I ask you not to use, whatever the reason may be?

The third thing which I ought to say at this stage is that, while we will do our best not to waste your time during the period when you want to come and film here, our work must come first and we must therefore reserve the right to change parts of the schedule of filming if necessary. Obviously you will understand that some crisis could occur without notice during that period, which we could not deal with before the eyes of your team. With this in mind, could I suggest that you use the week beginning 27 May to take as much as possible

Bol

of the film which does not involve the Prime Minister. Parliament should be in recess for that week and you should be more secure against interruption.

Having said those general things, I am generally content with the suggestions in your letter, subject to discussing the detail. I do, however, share your fear that some of the "staged" events will prove unusable, either from your point of view or ours. In particular, I have reservations about the suggation that you should film "a staged" interview between Robin Catford and a candidate for a post. I think we should try to minimise artificiality. I would have thought that you could convey more accurately the nature of his work in another way, for example by filming him taking a bishop up to his room and sitting down with him.

I am afraid that you will think this a dreary letter, but you will realise that my role is to restrain and make conditions. Let us have a further talk when you return and get down to planning a detailed schedule of provisional dates.

Mrs Jennie Barraclough

MJ2AGK.

MISS CAINES

cc Mr Ingham
Mr Redwood
Mr Catford
Mr Sherbourne
Mr Flesher
Mr Addison
Mr Joce
Miss Dover
Mr Taylor

I attach a copy of a letter from Jenny Barraclough following her conversations with some of you about the planned programme on No.10 together with a draft reply. I would like to get this to her tomorrow. If copy recipients have any comments would they like to let me know by lunch-time tomorrow (Thursday). In the absence of any comments I will take silence for assent.

BF

FERB

27 March 1985

ec

MJ2AGP

DRAFT LETTER TO JENNY BARRACLOUGH

Thank you for your letter of 19 March.

I gather that you are going to be away for a fortnight from this weekend and we can discuss some of the detail in your letter when you return. But let me give you some initial reactions.

First, I realise that your letter deals with just one aspect of the programme. But I am still concerned that we may not be at one about the overall purpose. The invitation was to make a programme about the house and its history. We have agreed that this should also include some shots of its present day use. But the focus of the programme should be on the house rather than on the activities which go on in it or the people that work there. I hope that you will tell me that you accept this because, if you do not, we will be at odds throughout and it would be better not to go ahead at all on a false basis.

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BBC tv

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TELEPHONE 01-743 1272 TELEX: 265781
TELEGRAMS AND CABLES: TELECASTS LONDON TELEX

Ext: 6221/6772
Room 2072

19th March, 1985

Dear Robin,

Yesterday's meetings went very well and I'm most grateful to everyone for being so helpful. We sorted out some ideas for filming which were briefly as follows:

Policy Unit

A brief excerpt of a policy unit meeting with discussion of an issue of general public interest.

Appointments

Robin Catford has kindly agreed to let us film a meeting between him and a successful candidate - either one which genuinely occurs in early May or a reconstructed interview with someone recently appointed.

Paintings

We were delighted to hear that Sir Robert Walpole is to be hung in the main hall. We hope to film Robin Catford supervising the hanging of this and another painting. We also hope to arrange an interesting sequence with Mr. Catford and Dr. Wendy Baron discussing the new paintings as well as other particular paintings and pieces of furniture in the State Apartments.

Political Office

Steven Sherbourne suggests we film him dictating a letter and discussion with Michael Alison, both of which are excellent ideas.

Private Secretaries

a) Parliamentary Affairs. We discussed with Tim Flesher two short sequences - organising the distribution of one of the Prime Minister's official statements and working on answers for Prime Minister's Question Time with Nicky Roach. We would also like to film the general exodus to the House of Commons on a Tuesday or Thursday.

Cont/....

b) Home Affairs. Mark Addison will go over the week's breakdown of letters with Kay Dover and deal with a couple of non-controversial letters which have been passed to him.

It would also be interesting to see him finalizing the Prime Minister's diary (something we omitted to talk about yesterday). I haven't yet spoken to Caroline Ryder but it would be nice to include her in this sequence.

The Private office

We would like to take some general shots of the office (with, if possible, a full complement of private secretaries) capturing some of the general activity without intruding on anything too specific.

The Principal Private Secretary

Very important! Perhaps nearer the time we could discuss some interesting, but harmless business you could be dealing with, that gives a reasonable idea of what you do without trespassing on anything confidential.

Honours

Not unfortunately a suitable time to film.

Press Office

I will discuss this in detail with Bernard Ingham and Jean, but we would like to film some of the activity in this lively office.

Garden Room

We would like to film the early morning sorting of letters and general secretarial activity as appropriate. We will include the plaque and such shots as will make interesting comparisons with the photos of the same room in 1941-42.

Lobby Correspondents

The Chairman of the Lobby Correspondents is being approached about our proposal to film one of their morning meetings with Bernard and his staff. We will of course be discussing this with Bernard in detail later.

Prime Minister and Cabinet Meeting

We look forward to hearing from you on the date for the Cabinet Meeting and the filming with the Prime Minister and her family, and will of course fit in with whatever you recommend. We would also like to film the Prime Minister in her office and leaving it to go to a cabinet meeting if this is possible.

Other Activities

The doormen, the plant and flower arrangers, the milk delivery, the horse and carriage deliver, the petitions, the garden, the cat, lunchtime.... these and other smalller items we would hope to fit in between the more important sequences. Perhaps we could work those out with Bernard when the main schedule has been established.

Receptions

As discussed, on May 15th, 21st, June 12th and 15th. Also the Private Secretaries' Garden Party at a date to be established. Filming would include behind-the-scenes preparations, guests arrivals, etc.

John Charlton

(An excellent idea). We would like to film him showing us some of the interesting historical pieces and pointing out changes in structure and decor.

General Filming in No. 10 to illustrate features of historical interest and points arising from interviews with ex-Prime Ministers etc. Also exterior shots in Downing Street.

I do hope I've covered everything. I would be most grateful if, when the time comes, you would draw our attention to any interesting last minute events that might crop up. We will draw up a detailed schedule in the week before filming begins. Please be assured that we will cause the minimum of inconvenience and that we will be careful at all times not to intrude upon matters that are sensitive or confidential.

May I say how impressed I have been with the friendliness and co-operation of the staff and with the good sense of my "minder"!

With best wishes.

Jenny Barraclough

Jenny Barraclough
Senior Producer
Documentary Features

Robin Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10, Downing Street,
London. s.w.1.

Robin

The proposals affecting my section are fine if we are going to have a film about No 10 and what goes on in it. But put together these proposals look a pretty formidable recipe for a "gossip" programme rather than a "record" programme

TB 20/3

cc Mr Flesher
Mr Addison
Mr Catford
Mr Redwood
Mr Owen
Mr Sherbourne
Miss Dover
Mrs Cole
Mr Joce
Mrs Pope
Miss Roche

MR BUTLER

BBC PROGRAMME ON NO 10'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Jenny Barraclough came to see people on Monday. She will be writing to me setting our her understanding of the next steps. But here is a list of the proposals which emerged: I have drawn this list up because I am anxious that we in No 10 should be of one mind about the way ahead before I next have to discuss it with Jenny.

Policy Unit

Staged film of a discussion in Mr Redwood's room involving members of the Unit. The subject would be selected in advance by the unit and would involve a piece of policy which was

(i) already public (the discussion might cover follow-up);

(ii) of broad, rather than technical interest (eg jobs or education, rather than the intricacies of BNOC).

Mr Catford

(i) Staged film of Mr Catford talking to a "candidate" for a job. In fact, the "candidate" would already have accepted the appointment, and the appointment would have been announced but the discussion would cover, for example, what the job in question actually involved. We should, of course, have to find a "candidate" who agreed to all this and the suggestion is that he might be an Arts man, rather than a cleric.

(ii) A portrait of Walpole is shortly to arrive for the Front Hall. J Barraclough could film a reconstructed hanging (!) of the picture with Mr Catford talking to the PSA curator.

Mr Addison/Miss Dover

(i) film of post being opened and sorted in the Garden Room;

(ii) staged film of Mr Addison and Miss Dover discussing a letter in the Garden Rooms, and discussing the weekly analysis of correspondence.

(iii) a long shot of the Garden Room at work.

Mr Flesher/Miss Roche

(i) Staged film in Miss Roche's office of preparation for an oral statement by the Prime Minister, showing Mr Flesher discussing with Miss Roche such things as

- who needs to be informed about the statement;

- who needs to be asked to provide supplementary briefing for the statement.

(ii) Staged film in Miss Roche's office of preparation for Questions, again showing Mr Flesher and Miss Roche discussing provision of briefing.

(iii) Film in the Hall of the Prime Minister and team leaving for Questions.

Mr Sherbourne

(i) Staged film of Mr Sherbourne and Mr Alison discussing, for example a speech, or a letter, or a conference (something harmless).

Mrs Cole

It was agreed that the work which will be going on in

Honours during the weeks when the BBC plan to film (May) is too confidential to permit any filming here. Miss Barraclough might ask to be allowed to come back to film Honours in June, when life is less confidential, but if she gets enough material from other offices, this may not be necessary.

Finally, Jenny Barraclough is keen to film something in Private Office and (perhaps) a Tuesday or Thursday lunch in the small dining room. I have said that we must seek your comments on all the proposals, and, in particular on any proposal to film in Private Office.

JC

JEAN CAINES
Deputy Press Secretary

18 March 1985

P.S. She is not able to indicate at this stage how much of the final programme our various 'acts' might fill. Nor has she yet discussed with me plans to film the Cabinet assembling or Bernard taking a Lobby. Doubtless these are still on the 'hit list' though.

JC

cc Mr Flesher
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JC

RESTRICTED

Correspondence to this address must be under double cover. The outer envelope should be addressed to The Secretary PO Box 500 London SW1P 1XH and not to any individual.

PO Box 500
London SW1P 1XH

Telephone 01-388 3232 ext.
01-491 4488 ext. 5920

P S Joce Esq
Security Coordinator
10 Downing Street
London SW1

Ref:

Date: 14 March 1985

Dear Peter, TJ 18/3

PROPOSED TV PROGRAMME

Please refer to letter of 18 February.

2. In the light of things that I have been hearing recently - not I hasten to say in respect of No 10 - and at the risk of teaching my grandfather to suck eggs, I think that paragraph 2 ~~1~~d of Ian's letter could usefully be expanded in the sense that steps should be taken to ensure that no weapons, ammunition, explosive or incendiary devices or unauthorised photographic or recording equipment is introduced into or near No 10 on the persons, in the baggage or in the transport of those involved in making the film.

Yours ever

TJ/ES

RESTRICTED

The Rt. Hon. Lord Wilson of Rievaulx

12 March 1985

My dear Robin.

Thank you for your letter of 5 March.

I am grateful to you for letting me know the background to the BBC invitation about No. 10. I should be very happy to take part, and I am making the necessary arrangements.

Yours.

Harold

Robin Butler Esq
Principal Private Secretary
10 Downing Street SW1

cc Mr R Butler
Mr P Joce
Mrs R Pope
Miss N Roche

MR FLESHER
MR ADDISON
MR CATFORD
MR REDWOOD
MR SHERBOURNE
MISS DOVER
MRS COLE

CF
BF to me
Monday am
pse
T

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF NO 10 - BBC TV PROGRAMME

Following Robin Butler's minute of 8 March, Jean Caines has arranged for Jenny Barraclough of BBC TV to come into No 10 to have a short 20 minute talk with each of you. The talk will take place on Monday, 18 March, in your own room, the exceptions being Messrs Flesher and Addison who will see Miss Barraclough in the small waiting room. The individual timings are undernoted:-

Monday, 18 March

11.15 - 11.35	Mrs Cole
11.35 - 11.55	Mr Catford
11.55 - 12.15	Mr Addison (small waiting room)
12.15 - 12.35	Mr Flesher (" " ")
12.35 - 12.55	Mr Sherbourne
12.55 - 1.15	Mr Redwood
1.15 - 1.35	Miss Dover.

Miss Caines will accompany Miss Barraclough throughout.

Beth Frier

BETH FRIER
PS/J CAINES

12 March 1985

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Home of The Hirsel, K.T.

HOUSE OF LORDS

March 8th.1985.

Dear Robin

Thank you for your letter.

I will prepare myself for a Jones / Barraclough approach.

Yours

Alec Home

Robin Butler Esq.
10 Downing St.
S.W. 1.

DOWNING ST.
250th Anniv

FILE

DA

cc Miss Caines
Mr. Joce

MR. FLESHER - in respect of Questions
MR. ADDISON - in respect of Correspondence
MR. CATFORD
MR. REDWOOD
MR. SHERBOURNE
MISS DOVER
MRS. COLE

250th Anniversary of No.10 - BBC TV Programme

I think that each of you met Jenny Barraclough, who is to produce the BBC programme on No.10 to mark the 250th anniversary.

I had a discussion with Jenny Barraclough this morning, in which I again made it clear that the purpose of the programme is to show the House and that pictures of what goes on in it should only be a limited and incidental part. In particular I have repeated that, while the cameras may be allowed to "eavesdrop" on some of our operations under very controlled conditions, there can be no direct interviews with staff.

There will be two categories of operations which the BBC will be allowed to film - and it is at present envisaged that they should do the filming between 7 and 21 May:-

(i) They will be allowed to film some "real life" activities where there is no security aspect - e.g. processing letters from members of the public in the Correspondence Section.

(ii) Where there is a security aspect so that the BBC cannot sit in on actual operations - e.g. the Private Secretaries' Office, the Policy Unit or the Political Office, we could stage something: Jenny Barraclough argued that this was likely to be "wooden", but I replied that this could not be helped. If the BBC did not wish to use the result that was up to them.

The purpose of this note is to tell you that Jenny Barraclough would like to have a talk with each of you about the possibilities for filming the operations of your unit. Jean Caines will seek to make an appointment for her to do so in the next few days and will accompany her. Any proposals which emerge will then be put together and will be cleared with me. But, while you should do what you can to suggest how the BBC might film a typical example of your operations, you should not agree to anything which is too disruptive of your normal work or which could in any way prejudice security.

F.E.R.B.

8 March 1985

From: The Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E., M.P.

CC PRS?

HOUSE OF COMMONS

6 March 1985

FBRB
Seen

Dear Robin.

Thank you very much for your letter of 5 March telling me about the programme being made by the BBC on the occasion of the 250th Anniversary of 10 Downing Street becoming the official residence of First Lords of the Treasury.

I have in fact received a letter from Jenny Barraclough of the BBC and have agreed to contribute to the programme.

Ever
Ted

F.E.R. Butler Esq
Principal Private Secretary

Downing ST

FEB 85

250TH Anniversary

MR BUTLER

250th Anniversary - BBC TV Programme

You will shortly receive a request from Jennie Barraclough for a meeting with you alone. You may, therefore, wish to see the attached copy of my Note for File recording the salient points of the two meetings Jean Caines and I have had with Mrs Barraclough.

P S Joce

P S JOCE

6 March 1985

JR(9)

NOTE FOR THE FILE

cc Mr. Ingham
Miss Caines

250th ANNIVERSARY - BBC TV PROGRAMME

As agreed at the initial meeting on 18 February (my minute dated 18 February to Mr. Butler refers) Jean Caines and I showed Chistopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough certain areas of No. 10 on 20 February. In addition to the State Rooms we visited the following offices where the named staff gave a brief description of their work:

Private Secretaries' Offices
(Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Flesher and Mr. Barclay)
Appointments (Mr. Catford)
Garden Rooms (Miss Dover)
Honours (Mrs. Cole)
Policy Unit
(Mr. Warry - in the absence of Mr. Redwood and Mr. Owen)
Political Office (Mr. Sherbourne)

Peter Taylor was in attendance for most of the time.

On 6 March, at her request, Jennie Barraclough visited Jean Caines to discuss her future plans. I also attended. At the outset, Jean Caines reminded Mrs. Barraclough of the earlier decision that filmed interviews with staff would not be permitted. As previously, Mrs. Barraclough regretted this decision alleging it would make it difficult to produce a good programme. As work progressed and she gained the confidence of the staff, she hoped that the decision would be rescinded. I said I thought this would be most unlikely.

Mrs. Barraclough then asked for the names of those individuals she had met on 20 February (she had not made notes at the time). Having been given the names noted above, she expressed the wish to discuss with them their work. At this point Jean Caines commented that it was our understanding that the emphasis

of the programme should be on No. 10 rather than the staff who worked in it. In this context it is perhaps significant that although the format of the programme has still to be decided, Mrs. Barraclough's personal view is that there should be one long programme, with about a third of the time devoted to the past and two thirds to the present.

I suggested that it would be helpful if Mrs. Barraclough could give us a broad outline of the programme as she currently envisaged it, with particular reference to the time she proposed to allocate to the work of the sections. We would consider this outline to see if it accorded with the views of those who had laid down the original guidelines. It was essential that we all agreed the general format of the programme before any further work was done. At first Mrs. Barraclough agreed with this approach but later decided she would write to Mr. Butler asking for a meeting with him alone.

P.S. Joce

P.S. JOCE

6 March 1985

JD3 AAP

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

5 March, 1985.

You may know that 1985 is the 250th Anniversary of 10 Downing Street becoming the official residence of First Lords of the Treasury. Sir Robert Walpole took up residence in 10 Downing Street in September 1735.

The Prime Minister has agreed to allow the BBC to take film inside the house as part of a programme about the house and its history. The programme is being made by Christopher Jones, the BBC's parliamentary correspondent, who made the series of programmes entitled "The Palace of Westminster" last year, and Jennie Barraclough, who made the recent documentary, "Elizabeth I - The First 30 Years".

Christopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough have said that they may wish to approach former Prime Ministers and ask to interview them about their recollections of living in 10 Downing Street. In case you receive such an approach, I am writing to let you know that the BBC have the Prime Minister's agreement to their making this programme.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Stockton, O.M.

JD3 ASP

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

5 March, 1985.

You may know that 1985 is the 250th Anniversary of 10 Downing Street becoming the official residence of First Lords of the Treasury. Sir Robert Walpole took up residence in 10 Downing Street in September 1735.

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Christopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough have said that they may wish to approach former Prime Ministers and perhaps their wives, and ask to interview them about their recollections of living in 10 Downing Street. In case you receive such an approach, I am writing to let you know that the BBC have the Prime Minister's agreement to their making this programme.

The Lord Home of the Hirsel, KT.

K

TDJ AAP

10 DOWNING STREET

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The Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E., M.P.

N

c: Miss Caines

MR BUTLER

BBC IN NO 10

Jennie Barraclough has asked if they could concentrate filming in No 10 in the fortnight May 7-21. This includes VE Day, Scottish Conference, drinks with Special Advisers, Export Day reception, bilaterals and lunch for Chancellor Kohl (at Chequers) and Finnish Prime Minister's visit.

Mrs Barraclough would also like to sit in a couple of offices to soak in the atmosphere. We shall have to think about this.

BERNARD INGHAM
5 March 1985

MR. BUTLER

250th ANNIVERSARY

You asked for a note of the salient points discussed at this morning's meeting attended by Christopher Jones, Jennie Barraclough, Bernard Ingham, you and me. The points were:

(a) No interviews with staff would be permitted.

(b) The Prime Minister would be asked if she would give an interview in her flat after Trooping the Colour - 15 June.

(c) Some aspects of the following functions would be filmed:-

(i) Reception to commemorate 'Export Day' - 15 May

(ii) Talks and dinner for the Finnish Prime Minister - 21 May

(iii) (Possibly) Lunch for President of Mexico - 12 June

(iv) Activities in No. 10 during and after Trooping the Colour - 15 June

(v) Private Secretaries' party in the garden.

(d) The arrival of Ministers for a meeting, and part of that meeting in the Cabinet Room, would be filmed.

(e) Filming ~~would~~ may also take place in the following sections:

Private Secretaries' Offices
Political Office
Press Office
Policy Unit
Appointments
Honours
Garden Rooms

(f) BBC would accept any security restrictions requested in respect of filming in offices,etc. Jones agreed that the Security Co-ordinator should see film and stills before release.

(g) No more than seven BBC staff would be in No. 10 at any one time. During filming four would suffice.

(h) A preliminary recce of No. 10 would be made by Jones and Jennie Barraclough at 1630 hours on 20 February. Jean Caines and Peter Joce would accompany them.

(i) Robin Butler would write to former Prime Ministers to introduce Jones.

(j) Robin Butler would issue ON informing staff about the BBC's future activities within No. 10.

(k) Jones said he might publish a small booklet with photographs based on their work here.

P.S. Joce

(P. S. JOCE)

18 February 1985

MR INGHAM
MR REDWOOD
MR CATFORD
MR TURNBULL
MR SHERBOURNE
MISS DOVER
MR TAYLOR
MRS CRUST

cc Mr Joce

The Prime Minister has agreed that, to mark the 250th anniversary of 10 Downing Street as the Prime Minister's residence, a television programme should be made about the history and current use of the house. It will be made by Christopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough of the BBC, who made the series of programmes "The Palace of Westminster" last year.

Jean Caines and Peter Joce will be bringing Christopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough around the building in the late afternoon of Wednesday, 20 February, and they are likely to visit your section. After that, the BBC will put proposals about the parts of the house which they want to film for the programme. Members of the office may be asked to appear in the programme going about their duties, but none will be interviewed.

Please will you cooperate with Christopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough and explain to the members of your section the purpose of their visit. Classified papers should be kept out of sight when they come round.

F.E.R.B.

F E R BUTLER

18 February 1985

PO Box 500
London SW1P 1XH

Telephone 01-388 3232 ext.
01-491 4488 ext. 5840

Our ref:

P S Joce Esq
Security Co-ordinator
10 Downing Street

18 February 1985

Mr Butler
You may wish to see in connexion with my minute of 6 March
P.S. Joce
7.iii.85

Dear Peter,

PROPOSED TV PROGRAMME

We discussed the other day what precautions might be taken if the proposed TV programme to mark Downing Street's 250th anniversary went ahead.

2. In our view the following should be considered:

Against Surreptitious Attack/TEMPEST

a. the closest possible supervision of all those entering to make the programme;

b. physical inspections after filming (searchers should familiarise themselves beforehand with the layout and the contents of rooms);

c. restricting the use of word-processors to less sensitive work when programme-making is in progress (restrictions should certainly apply when equipment is being set up and tested).

Against Violent Attack

d. inspection of containers (bags, etc) on entry to prevent the introduction of weapons, explosive or incendiary devices, etc;

e. physical inspections after filming (see b);

Against acquisition of Operational Intelligence

f. avoidance of broadcast shots showing:

/.....

i. security equipment or furniture of any kind, internal or external;

ii. interior aspects of external doors and windows;

iii. exterior close-ups of doors and windows;

iv. the relationship of rooms to each other;

v. roofs, tunnels, etc;

vi. distinguishing features of staff.

g. avoidance of narration covering i. and iv-v. above.

I am inclined to think that, in view of the present monitoring arrangements, a technical inspection after film-making will not be necessary. As regards physical searches, we should be happy if you so wished to assist with our own staff.

3. I should of course be pleased to discuss these suggestions in detail.

Yours ever,

BBC

BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
PRESS GALLERY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1
TELEPHONE 01-222 9586 or 01-219 4765

14th February, 1984.

Dear Mr Butler,

I am very pleased to tell you that Mrs Jennie Barraclough, one of the BBC's most senior and successful programme makers, is to be the Director of the Downing Street project. I am quite certain that her great experience will prove immensely valuable in making the programme with the minimum of disturbance at No 10 and with the maximum use of our mutual resources.

I have discussed the programme at length with Mrs Barraclough and we would both be pleased if we could come and see you, and Mr Ingham, at your earliest possible convenience. The amount of work that has to be done if we are to be ready by the autumn is formidable, and we would hope to be able to discuss with you, as soon as possible, precise dates, times and places for filming.

Might I also then take up with you again the possibility of interviewing some members of the No 10 staff? If we are to operate on your excellent general principle of letting the public see No 10 through the camera's eye, their understanding would, as I am sure you will realise, be much restricted if they are also unable to hear from some of the people most involved with life and activities there. But perhaps this is one of the things we might talk about at our meeting.

I very much look forward to meeting you again. I will send a copy of this letter to Mr Ingham.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Jones

(Christopher Jones).

F.E.R. Butler Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON SW1.

1. Mr. Ingham - to see
2. Anne Clark. Honours Section
P.U file.

BBC
BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION
PRESS GALLERY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1
TELEPHONE 01-222 9586 or 01-219 4765

4th February 1985

Dear Mr Butler,

Thank you for your letter of 28th January. I am very pleased indeed that we have been able, at this early stage in our enterprise, to agree on so many points. I look forward to having more detailed discussions with you at an early date.

The programme will come under the direction of Mr. Will Wyatt, Head of documentary Features, who will also be working with Mr. Christopher Capron, the newly appointed head of Parliamentary Broadcasting. Mr. Wyatt is now actively involved in arranging the necessary finance for it, and he is also selecting an experienced producer. As soon as this has been done, I will be in touch with you - and with Mr. Ingham - again, when the producer could work out with you the firm details of the filming that will have to be done.

Incidentally, it appears that Sunday, 22nd September is the exact anniversary date, and we are now working toward putting out the programme on or very near that date.

I will be in touch with both you and Mr. Ingham immediately the director has been selected.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Jones
Parliamentary Correspondent

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON, SW1.

jlh

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

PERSONAL

28 January 1985

Dear Mr. Jones.

Thank you for your letter of 21 January. I am delighted that you and your senior colleagues at the BBC like the idea of a documentary about 10 Downing Street to mark its 250th anniversary. I set out below some reactions to the suggestions made in your letter so that you can take account of them in your planning. Once your own intentions are clearer, perhaps we could have a further meeting to undertake more detailed planning.

I am glad that you would want to cover the beginnings and the history of 10 Downing Street and famous events which have occurred here. In response to your suggestion that the programme should also cover the modern working of No 10, I have cleared with the Prime Minister that she would be content for the programme makers to be given facilities for this purpose, subject to the points below.

Above all, it would be important to ensure that the facilities given to the programme team should neither compromise security nor interfere unduly with the work of the Prime Minister's Office.

I am grateful to you for saying that you would co-operate fully with our experts over security. We will need to consider in our detailed planning the specific occasions which the programme makers might be allowed to film in order to illustrate the various facets of No 10 - at our earlier talk we mentioned as examples a reception in the State rooms, a formal dinner, preparations for receiving and the greeting of a distinguished visitor, the Trooping the Colour and the entertainment of the Commonwealth High Commissioners at it. But it would help enormously both with maintaining security and with minimising disruption if the team used to take these "behind the scenes"

Christopher Jones Esq

shots can be kept to the absolute mininimum, and remain unchanged.

The Prime Minister does not rule out shots being taken of the staff of No 10 going about their various duties, but there should not be interviews with them about their work. The Prime Minister does not think it appropriate for a film to be taken of a meeting of the Cabinet, but she would agree to shots being taken of a more informal meeting of Ministers in the Cabinet Room.

The Prime Minister would also be willing, in principle, to allow some shots to be taken of the private life of herself and her family at No 10.

I would certainly be prepared to write a letter in due course to former Prime Ministers explaining that the Prime Minister has authorised you to make a programme about No 10 to commemorate its 250th anniversary, which may help you if you want to approach them and their wives for their memories of living here. Similarly, I would write to any other organisations or individuals whom you wish to approach.

No doubt you will want to consider this response to the points raised in your letter and, when you are ready, Mr Ingham and I will look forward to a further discussion to undertake more detailed planning.

I am copying this letter to Bernard Ingham.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Butler.

F E R BUTLER

Mr Butler
Fine
28/1

MR BERNARD INGHAM c Mr Peter Joce

250th ANNIVERSARY

In the light of the Prime Minister's response to the points put to her on the subject of the 250th anniversary, are you content that I should reply to Christopher Jones' letter of 21 January on the attached lines?

F.E.R.B

F E R BUTLER

28 January 1985

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

PERSONAL

28 January 1985

Dear Mr. Jones,

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No doubt you will want to consider this response to the points raised in your letter and, when you are ready, Mr Ingham and I will look forward to a further discussion to undertake more detailed planning.

I am copying this letter to Bernard Ingham.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Butler.

F E R BUTLER

PRIME MINISTER

c. Mr Ingham

250th ANNIVERSARY OF NO 10, DOWNING STREET

Bernard Ingham and I have now had a talk with Christopher Jones (who made The Palace of Westminster programmes) about a documentary to mark the 250th Anniversary of No 10. He has mentioned the idea to the Director General and other BBC top management who are enthusiastic about it.

They are at an early stage of planning, but they have asked some questions about which we need to guide them at the outset.

They have agreed to cover the building of Downing Street and the life and times of its builder; its development as the centre of the government; the people who have lived there (including some interviews with former Prime Ministers) and momentous events which took place especially during the two world wars.

They have also asked if they can show some "behind-the-scenes" shots of how No 10 works today, eg reception in the State rooms, a formal dinner, Ministers assembled for a meeting in the Cabinet room, your awaiting in the hall and then greeting a distinguished visitor, an occasion in the garden (perhaps the Commonwealth High Commissioners passing through for The Trooping of the Colour or the Private Secretaries' party). They have asked if they can show some of the staff at work to illustrate the range of

activities in the house; and whether you would agree to some shots of yourself and your family in the flat.

All this will have to be kept firmly under control, in terms both of security and of the amount of intrusion. Subject to this, Bernard and I would be grateful for your guidance as follows:-

i. Agree that they may take some shots of the workings of No 10 and specific occasions?

Bernard thinks I am being a bit stuffy about this.

ii. Refuse a proposal that they film the Cabinet but consider shots of Ministers assembled for a less formal meeting in the Cabinet room?

iii. Agree that they can have shots of some of the staff in their offices (eg the Garden rooms, Private Secretaries office) but no interviews? Press Office! Policy Unit

iv. Would you be willing for them to take some shots of you and your family in the flat, eg on the lines of the photo of you working in the sitting room in Carol's book, or in the dining room? Yes MT

In the light of your views on these points, Bernard and I will guide the producer in drawing up more detailed plans.

F.E.R.B.

F E R BUTLER

25 January 1985

010

Hons

NBRM

Ref. A085/224

MR BUTLER

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 24 December to Mr Ballard about a television programme on 10 Downing Street.

with FER 82.

2. The proposal obviously contains some security hazards: the risk that somebody will bring in an explosive device or a piece of eavesdropping equipment and plant it in the building, and the risk of disclosing information about the building which could be of value to a terrorist group or hostile intelligence services.

3. I am sure that these risks can be contained if suitable precautions are taken. If it is decided to go ahead, you will no doubt arrange for the detailed precautions to be discussed with the Security Service.

RTA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

23 January 1985

BBC Broadcasting House London WIA IAA

Telephone 01-580 4468 Telex: 265781 Telegrams and Cables: Broadcasts London Telex

PERSONAL

21 January 1985

F.E.R. Butler Esq.,
Principal Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Mr Butler,

Following our recent conversation, I have discussed the idea with Alan Protheroe, Assistant Director General of the B.B.C. He has mentioned the matter to the Director General, the Managing Director of BBC-TV, and the Director of Programmes: all share his enthusiasm and are delighted to accept your suggestion that we should make a television documentary programme based on the 250th anniversary of No 10, Downing Street. May I also add my personal thanks that you should have approached me on this matter.

This is clearly going to be a major undertaking, and at such an early stage it is difficult to be in any way precise about our plans. However, as you suggested yourself, our general approach would be that, as the public are unable to go round No 10 for themselves, our cameras should be there on their behalf.

It is also much too early to decide precisely what format the documentary should take: perhaps one fairly lengthy programme, or perhaps a series of shorter programmes. Whatever format we eventually feel to be most suitable, we would certainly cover the building of Downing Street and the life and times of its builder; we would want to show its development as the centre of cabinet government, and the famous and interesting men and women who have lived there and their life styles while they were at No 10; we would hope to see the many changes that have been made to it over the centuries, and most certainly recall the momentous events that have happened there, especially during the two world wars. Finally, we would wish to show No 10 as a modern and sophisticated centre of Government, yet still behind its unassuming but historic facade.

Cont...

In covering the modern workings of No 10 we would hope, for instance, to be able to show it as a place which leading foreign statesmen are proud to visit and we would like to see the preparations for those visits and their reception when they arrive. We would also hope to show the more informal moments when the Prime Minister entertains people from all walks of life, and to show the splendid rooms in which this happens and details of their historic furnishings.

There would naturally be intense public interest in precisely how the Prime Minister's life there is organised; how and where the staff work; their duties and responsibilities; and we would, while showing this, hope to interview members of all ranks among that staff. As I mentioned to you, we would especially hope to be given the unique facility of filming at least a part of a Cabinet meeting, and we would be happy to discuss with you the precise terms on which this could be done. My experience in filming a meeting of the Government whips at No 12 might be useful in this matter. Again, we would also be very keen to be allowed to film something of the private life of the Prime Minister and her family, showing No 10 not only as a place of formality and political power, but also as a very real private home - a role it has fulfilled for centuries.

All this would, as you most certainly will realise, involve a great deal of filming, and we would be happy to arrange, in detail, precisely how and when this would be done. Much would no doubt be done in the recesses at Easter, Whitsun and especially during the summer recess, although much will also have to be done when No 10 is fully operational if we are to show it working.

You mentioned to me the imperative need at all times to observe the rules of security. Naturally we would do so, and would co-operate fully with your experts in this matter.

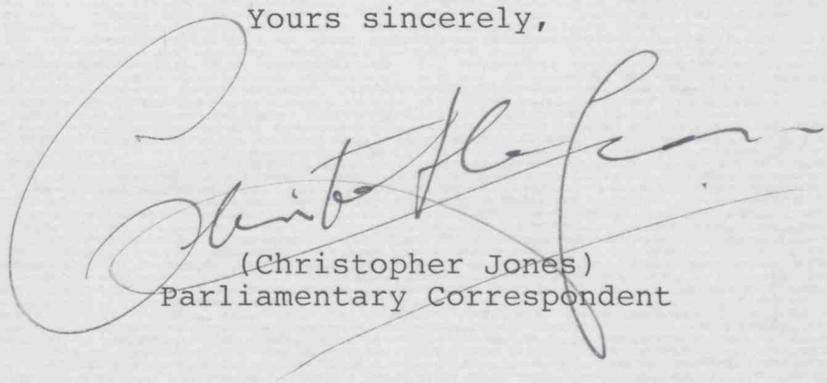
We discussed, also, the possibility of my interviewing former Prime Ministers-- and perhaps their wives -- about their memories of life at No 10, and you were good enough to say that you would contact them first on our behalf before we made any approaches ourselves. You also suggested that I should receive some form of credentials from you to cover approaches that I might feel it is necessary to make to other Government departments, organisations or individuals.

I hope that his letter deals, if only in general terms, with all the points we discussed. We are now actively putting our own arrangements in hand; we have, for instance, urgently to find a producer of suitable experience and standing, and there is much other planning to be done. If there is, however, any further matter which you want to discuss with me, or with any of those who become involved in the project, then we would, of course, always be available.

Cont...

I will, in any case, keep closely in touch with Mr Ingham -- I am sending him a copy of this letter -- so that we can go ahead as quickly as possible. There is an immense amount of work to be done if we are to cope with this, a major project, in time to mark such an historic anniversary.

Yours sincerely,



(Christopher Jones)
Parliamentary Correspondent

From: BBC Office, House of Commons.

947-1926 Appointments

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Bernard Ingham – to see
Could you arrange for you and me to float this with the BBC on the lines we discussed.

7 January 1985

Dear Robin

FERB 8.1.

Thank you for your letter of 24 December about the proposal for a television programme to mark the 250th Anniversary of Walpole's taking up residence at 10 Downing Street.

There are certainly no objections to this from our point of view and we shall be pleased to co-operate in whatever way we can.

I should be grateful if your people could keep PSA in touch with progress to that they can arrange for the BBC to sign the standard indemnity for any damage or loss to the building that may occur during filming. The contact is Mr Holland, Room 10/14, St Christopher House, Southwark Street, London SE1 (Ext 2145). It would be helpful if our District Works Officer could also be kept informed so that he can assist the BBC with any arrangements they may need to make for electrical supplies and so on.

Yours sincerely

John Ballard

J F BALLARD
Private Secretary

Robin Butler Esq

PM Security meeting minutes 7.1.85

6. 250th Anniversary of No. 10

There was no difficulty in principle with a programme which showed no more of the interior of No 10 than the programme with Laurens van der Post. Mr. Butler had written to the PSA to establish their views, before taking the proposal further.

FILE

da

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

24 December 1984

Dear John,

As you will know, 1985 is the 250th Anniversary of Walpole's taking up residence in No.10. We have been considering whether there is anything which we could do to mark this anniversary. We have approved a First Day Cover and Postmark proposed by a Mr. Bradbury who is approved and used by the Post Office for these things.

It would be nice also to show the public generally something of the house, its history and its present use. We cannot these days have an "open day" but the next best thing would be a television programme, perhaps on the lines of "The Palace of Westminster" last year. For security purposes, the filming would have to be carefully controlled and we would have to try to ensure that such a programme did not convey more than is already known of the geography of the house and the relationship of the various rooms to each other; but it should be possible to do this. As you will recall the Prime Minister gave an interview to Laurens van der Post a year or so ago in which she showed him round parts of the house.

The Prime Minister is happy in principle with this idea. Could you let me know whether your Secretary of State and your Department would see any objection from the DOE's point of view. If you are content, we will float the idea with the BBC, and they may well want to seek the co-operation of some of your people, and in particular Mr. John Charlton, who wrote the book on No.10.

I am copying this letter to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Butler

John Ballard, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

dg

PRIME MINISTER

mb

250th ANNIVERSARY OF NO 10

As you know, Walpole took up residence at No 10 as Prime Minister in 1735. So next year is the 250th anniversary of its becoming the Prime Minister's residence.

I have been considering what, if anything, we should do to celebrate this milestone. All that is planned so far is a first-day cover and postmark, a piece of private enterprise by a Mr Bradbury who is approved and used by the Post Office for these things.

We could give a party for former Prime Ministers and people who have been closely associated with No 10. But I doubt whether this would appeal much to those concerned or strike any chord with the public. We cannot these days have an 'open day' for members of the public. But the ideal thing would be to show the public generally something of the house which they provide for their Prime Minister and of its history.

That suggests a television programme. Two years ago you did something of this kind with Laurens van der Post for Yorkshire Television. But I was thinking of something which concentrated more on some of the historical associations of No 10 and how it is used today - the Cabinet Room and some of the things that have happened there; the plaques in the Garden Rooms about their use in the Second World War; perhaps the room in No 12 where Wellington and Nelson are said to have met; and so on.

Nothing which reveals the geography of No 10 is welcome from a security point of view; and the filming would have to be carefully controlled. But it should be possible to show rooms without revealing their relationship to each other, as was done in the Laurens van der Post interview, and without showing more than has already been published, for example in the book about No 10.

Mr Ingham and I envisaged that the team which did this year's programmes on The Palace of Westminster would do this sort of thing very well. Provided that the DOE have no objection, would you be content for us to float the idea with the BBC?

Yes

F.E.R.B.

F E R BUTLER

17 December 1984

PM Security meeting minutes. 10.12.84

CONFIDENTIAL

250th Anniversary of No.10

The meeting gave preliminary consideration to the possibility of a television programme being made to mark the No. 10 250th Anniversary in 1985. The amount of filming required for a thirty minute programme gave rise to some concern, since it would be difficult to restrict the team to parts of the building which were already well known. But security was only one consideration, and not necessarily overriding. As a first step, Mr. Joce was invited to look out the papers relating to an earlier television programme with Laurens van der Post.

Mr. Joce

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