

JM/MT

CONFIDENTIAL FILING

THE PRIME MINISTER'S TERM
OF OFFICE .

PRIME MINISTER

SEPTEMBER 1987

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
11.9.87							
19.10.87							
19.1.88							
26.2.88							
9.1.89							
7.2.89							
10.2.89							
27.2.89							
2/4/89							
25.4.83							

PREM 19/2802

Fly

Prime Ministers in Office over 10 years

Walpole	20 yrs	10 months
Liverpool	14 yrs	8 months
Salisbury	13 yrs	8 months
Gladstone	12 yrs	8 months
North	12 yrs	2 months

Mrs Thatcher	Nov 1990 to date	10 yrs	6 months
	to end of this Parl = June 1992	13 yrs	1 month
to beat Liverpool	Jan Feb 1994		

TEN YEARS AT NO 10

INTRODUCTION

On 4th May 1979 Britain made a decisive break with the past. This was (as Enoch Powell once put it) "to take the fundamentally corporate, intensely team-minded, quintessentially masculine institution of British government and put a woman in as captain."

In the ensuing decade Margaret Thatcher, besides her more substantial achievements, easily established herself as the most photographed Prime Minister Britain has ever had. In the beginning there was the fact of being the first woman to lead this, or any other Western government. Then followed her vigorous pursuit of radical objectives, the strength of purpose in which she takes pride, and the hold she exercises over the public. In addition, Margaret Thatcher possesses a natural quality which is very much an asset of the Eighties. She is extremely photogenic. Photographers are drawn to her. On one level, therefore, Ten Years at Number 10 is about her affinity with the camera.

This book is not intended to be an exhaustive pictorial record of the Thatcher decade. Many of the Prime Minister's resounding successes (a new national confidence, economic prosperity and vastly extended property and capital ownership) would anyway be hard to express effectively in visual terms; and the same goes for her occasional setbacks. The intention is rather to portray some of the excitement and energy of ten momentous years. Here too are glimpses of the unmistakable Thatcher style - the attentive listener; the combative leader rallying party support; the perfectionist going over the briefs one more time on the long flight to Moscow or Beijing; the tireless worker doing the boxes upstairs at Number 10 late at night. A strong believer in the power of personal contact, she is unquestionably the most widely-travelled Western leader. Between 1979 and 1988, Margaret Thatcher made 109 foreign trips, including European Community, Commonwealth and European Summitry, and visited more than 50 countries, many of them more than once.

Over/...

Most of the pictures are from the archives of press photographers assigned to cover the Prime Minister's activities and public engagements. The choice was wide-ranging, reflecting her high public profile both at home and abroad. Some are moments in history: in January 1983, the Prime Minister flew to the Falklands to meet the islanders and tour the scenes of the previous year's fighting. In 1984, she posed for photographs at Chequers with Mikhail Gorbachev, then a member of the ruling Soviet Politburo, but little known in the West. Mrs Thatcher established a rapport with him which was to serve her well later. At the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton, that same year, the Prime Minister had a narrow escape from the IRA in the bomb explosion at the Grand Hotel. This did not stop her giving her speech as scheduled that afternoon, and the delegates responded with an eight-minute ovation.

In Moscow, the Prime Minister is seen at the ballet with Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev; but also at the Zagorsk monastery, lighting a candle on behalf of religious freedom. In Warsaw, she has talks with General Jaruzelski - and then meets Lech Walesa. In addition there are some new, specially-commissioned photographs by Daniel Meadows, in which the Prime Minister shows where she is most at ease: in the Cabinet Room at Number 10, and in her own office in the House of Commons.

The Eighties belong to Margaret Thatcher. As it is her clear intention to lead the Conservatives to a fourth election when the moment comes, the Nineties may well belong to her too.

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY

This note sets out the arrangements for tomorrow by way of marking your 10th anniversary proper. Again it is a day for smiles, relaxed attitudes, confidence and a display of continued determination.

Morning - 8.30am

You are to come out through the door of No 10 about that time to be photographed on this historic day; to say a few words to the media; and to take a few questions. We shall have a microphone available. The media want you to use it because they are all plugged into it to get good quality sound.

The closer to 8.30am you can make it the more likely you are to feature on breakfast television.

I hope Mr Thatcher can join you. We have explained his absence from today's photocall with Michael by the fact that he had a board meeting out of London.

I will be waiting in the hall at 8.25am to brief you on anything I feel you should be alerted to.

So far as your remarks are concerned, I suggest you say something to this effect:

"Thank you for coming to join me in marking this, my 10th anniversary of entering No 10 as Prime Minister.

"[It's another fine day - a good omen, perhaps, for the next 10 years].

NB - This will make the news headlines if the weather allows.

"When I go back inside No 10 I shall start preparing for another ordinary working Thursday including Cabinet and Prime Minister's Questions in the House.

"All I want to say today is that I feel a great sense of achievement that Britain's fortunes over the last 10 years have been transformed and Britain's stock in the world stands higher than for many decades.

That's how I aim to keep it. Whatever we as a Conservative Government may have achieved, we have still lots to do. I intend that we shall continue to conduct Britain's affairs wisely, imaginatively and decisively.

I look forward to providing the leadership which I know Britain likes and respects in the years to come.

Cabinet

I would like you to authorise Andrew Turnbull to give me a line out of Cabinet for the 11am Lobby which gives a flavour of the atmosphere and celebrations.

Agree?

Interviews

I am arranging for you, as agreed, to give short news interviews (5 minutes maximum) in the White Room from 3.45pm (after Questions) to:

BBC Radio
BBC TV
ITN
IRN
TV-AM
Sky

My briefing for the Press Association interview today is attached. I have only one other point to add: please remind yourself of your response in 1988 to questions related to Sir Francis of Assisi passage (see Pages 2 and 3 of your 1988 transcript at Annex III.)

These interviews will be primarily concerned with providing a vehicle for getting on visual record your reactions to your stunning achievement in achieving 10 years in office.

The questioning is likely to be familiar and likely to reflect destructive criticism. Don't be afraid to relax as you did with Chris Moncrieff this morning and tell the abusers, in press and Parliament, that by the very virtue of their abuse they are conceding the argument.

Aurum Press

Tom Arnold MP is organising a champagne reception/celebration in Commons Dining Room A (4.15 to 6.15pm) to mark the publication of two books associated with your 10th anniversary:

- The Revival of Britain, a collection of your speeches
- Ten Years at No 10, a pictorial record

You (and, if possible, Mr Thatcher) are expected at around 5.15pm. I will accompany you.

Soon after your arrival Tom Arnold will say a few words by way of congratulation and introduce the two books. You are expected to reply for a maximum of 5 minutes. (See Annex I for speaking notes).

After you have spoken Beatrice Hemming, aged 7, will present you with some flowers. You will then be invited to cut a cake for distribution to the guests. You will be able to mingle with the guests free of the attention of photographers. Journalists invited are at Annex II. They are predominantly political and literary editors.

Aurum are expecting you to leave after 30 minutes.

Cabinet Dinner

I would appreciate 5 minutes with you after the Aurum Reception and before the dinner to agree a line to feed out to the media about your remarks at the dinner. This is too good an opportunity to miss to get two or three paragraphs of strong stuff on the record.

Content?



BERNARD INGHAM
May 3, 1989

me el

SIR PERCY CRADOCK) Separate copies
MR. INGHAM)

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The Prime Minister asked yesterday for themes and ideas for the several speeches she will need to make at Conservative Party occasions next week, to mark her tenth anniversary as Prime Minister. I attach some material on foreign affairs. I should be very grateful for comments.

C DP

CHARLES POWELL
25 April 1989

EL3DNC

FOREIGN AFFAIRS:
NOTES FOR TENTH ANNIVERSARY SPEECHES

One of our greatest achievements has been to restore Britain's standing in the world. Indeed our influence is probably at a higher point now than at any time since the end of the Second World War. People in this country want Britain to be respected abroad and play an important role. The Government's success on this score is a very important asset, and one which we must make the most of, contrasting it with Labour's lack of experience and the inevitable decline in Britain's world-wide standing if Labour were ever again to be in government.

The most important single factor in restoring our influence and standing has been our economic recovery. That enabled us to break away from the image of Britain as the sick man of Europe, of a demoralised and unsuccessful country. That is another reason why it is so important to overcome inflation and continue our economic recovery. It is the mainstay of our reputation abroad.

But that reputation also has a broader foundation. We are seen as a government of principle and consistency, always ready to give a lead even on difficult issues, a loyal ally particularly of the United States and a staunch supporter of strong defence including nuclear weapons. Leadership, strength and dependability are the qualities which are once again associated with this country - and image is very important. This is what gives us our ability to play a larger and more influential role in world affairs than our economic strength as measured in statistical terms would justify.

We have used that influence very much to Britain's benefit in a whole host of ways.

We have restored Britain's position as the United States' closest and most dependable ally. We were very fortunate in

having Ron Reagan who shared so many of our views. On the really basic issues of defence, freedom and human rights, he marked out his ground and stood firmly and unshakeably on it. That we were able to work so closely with him brought us very substantial benefits, for instance over nuclear weapons and the purchase of Trident as well as in the intelligence field. We stood by him in troubled times, as over the bombing of Libya: that is what allies are for, to stand alongside you when there are difficulties. In return we had a very far-reaching influence over American policy, in particular when it came to setting the agenda on arms control. And when Ron Reagan and I stood together, as when we insisted at the NATO Summit in 1988 on the absolute need for NATO to keep its weapons up to date, then we could always prevail. I believe that George Bush wants to work with us in the same way, and that is something which we shall do all we can to encourage.

Then we have made a very great impact in East/West relations. There is no doubt that Gorbachev looks on Britain as the firmest member of the Western Alliance and therefore the one - apart from the United States - most worth talking to. We spotted Gorbachev early on and recognised him as an entirely new phenomena in the Soviet Union. And we have now had five meetings with him and he has invited me to visit the Soviet Union twice next year. But there has never been any misunderstanding in our relationship: he knows that we are inseparable allies of the United States and that we will always stand firm on defence and nuclear weapons. Our position has been that we support him fully in what he is trying to do in the Soviet Union, but only on the basis that we remain absolutely sure in our defence. That position has very wide support in this country. I think he recognises that, while he can try to erode the resistance of some of the other European members of NATO, he will never succeed with us. The relationship which we have established with him is of great benefit to Britain in practical terms and as well as to us politically.

Another area where we have been successful is in the Commonwealth, and the reason we have been successful is that we have refused to allow the Commonwealth to dictate to us. Most of the countries of the Commonwealth are not exactly noted for their standards of democracy or their racial tolerance. But under our predecessors, there was a feeling that the Commonwealth was in some way morally superior and could tell Britain what to do. Well, we started by demonstrating our good faith and commitment to respect the outcome of elections with the settlement in Zimbabwe at Lancaster House. And we have refused to be pushed into sanctions against South Africa because we know them to be wrong and destructive. You do not achieve progress by condemning families - above all black South African families - to poverty and starvation. Our views on this have won increasingly wide acceptance: and the fact is that the other Commonwealth countries have not in practice imposed additional sanctions. But the even more important lesson is that the Commonwealth cannot be used as a means of bringing pressure on us to act against our interests or in ways that we know to be wrong. Now that lesson has been learned, the way is open for the Commonwealth to be a more useful and influential body. We are getting back, too, into a much better and less niggling relationship with the white Commonwealth countries, particularly Australia. It does undoubtedly give us extra standing in the world to have such a geographically extensive group of English-speaking countries which continue to look to Britain for a lead: and on my travels I have found a general desire to maintain the Commonwealth link.

When it comes to Europe, we had important successes in reducing our net budgetary contribution - although it still remains far too high for what we get out of the Community - and also in reforming the CAP and in getting the Community to concentrate on completing the Single Market. These are not inconsiderable achievements. But there is no point in concealing that fact that our vision of the European Community is different from that of some of our European partners. We are not against Europe, of course we are not. We want to be

part of a strong Europe based on willing cooperation between independent sovereign states, but not of a federal Europe which strips national governments and Parliaments of their powers. That is why we do not accept the Delors' Committee's recommendations on economic and monetary union. The message which we have to get across is that proposals which are all too often presented as European are in practice and in purpose not European but socialist. There is a vision of Europe very prevalent in the Community, which would have Europe run on dirigiste lines by ever more regulation from the centre. This goes flatly counter to all that we have achieved in this country over the last ten years and we must not make any concessions to it. Our Europe, the one we want to see, is based on economic liberty, on free markets, on wider choice, on reducing government intervention, not on planning and control from the centre. It is we who stand for the best traditions of Europe and we must get that message across, both in this country and in Europe itself.

There are many other areas where Britain has increasingly been able to give an effective lead:

- in Southern Africa, where there are now better prospects for political reform in South Africa itself because we stood firm against sanctions. Britain is probably the only country whose voice carries significant weight with South Africa - America has lost hers by disinvestment and Congressional support for sanctions - and we must try to use our influence to bring about the peaceful change which is so necessary, while protecting our very considerable economic interests. We have had considerable influence, too, over the Namibia settlement and our help is being sought in Mozambique. With the more pragmatic attitude taken by the Soviet Union, which was very clear in my recent talks with Gorbachev, I think we now have a prospect of solving one of the most difficult and persistent world problems peacefully and honourably - with Britain very much in the lead.

- in the Middle East, I believe that we have achieved a much better balance in British policy than at any time in the last 40 years, and our voice is listened to by both sides: by Israel and by the moderate Arab governments. That has enabled us to be very successful in pursuing our trade interests - which depend so much in the Middle East on personal contact and confidence at the highest level. It is because countries like Saudi Arabia see Britain as a model of stability and of resistance to Communism that they have been ready to place large orders such as Tornado with us.
- we have also been in the lead against international terrorism, pressing for ever stronger commitments by Governments not to bargain with terrorists and in taking action against states like Syria, Libya and Iran which operate state terrorism. We are very widely perceived as being the strongest government in the world when it comes to standing up to terrorism.
- and it's Britain which has been the strongest champion of open markets and genuine free trade, within Europe and more widely, constantly having to put pressure on the other European countries to reduce subsidies to agriculture and to dismantle trade barriers, so that there is no question of a Fortress Europe after 1992.

All this is a very remarkable record when you compare it with the low point to which Britain's influence and standing had sunk in 1979. You know, I did a count the other day and in the first half of this year, I shall have met Heads of State and Government either here in London or abroad. And the reason they all want to come here and have meetings is because they want our support, they want our views, they want our advice.

There will be plenty of problems ahead, there always are:

- we are facing potential perils as the Soviet Empire in Eastern Europe, and perhaps within the borders of the Soviet Union itself, begins to crumble. We want to see more and more of these nations enjoy freedom and greater prosperity, but without provoking the violent counter reaction which could increase the risk of East/West conflict.
- while we do not have to match the feverish initiatives of Mr. Gorbachev, which are actually a product of weakness, we must constantly explain our policies to our people and be ready to come forward with well-founded proposals of our own, within the limits imposed by our security.
- we are going to have to work very hard with some of our European partners to convince them of the need to continue to keep our defences strong in the face of Mr. Gorbachev's attempts to divide Europe from the US and get nuclear weapons out of Europe. The message we have constantly to get across is that we are not interested in a nuclear-free Europe but a war-free Europe, and the best way to ensure this is by nuclear weapons and by keeping them up to date.
- we shall have to cope with more and more new issues on the international agenda, in particular the environment, where we shall need to establish a new level of international cooperation to deal with problems such as the depletion of the ozone layer and the greenhouse effect. We have been one of the first in the field in dealing with these problems, and we must make sure that our views continue to be prominent, so that we do not get saddled with some of the more impractical and expensive solutions which are floating around.
- and we need to be able to demonstrate, when it comes to the next elections, that the Government has a clear vision of the world into the next century and Britain's role in it, a vision which in particular will inspire

younger people. Steady as she goes will not be enough. We need to show that the same principles on which we have stood so far - strong defence, our special relationship with the United States, our vision of a free enterprise Europe, our attachment to the Commonwealth - remain valid and that we have the imagination and the originality to deal with new problems, to respond to new needs and to confront a period of change which will be greater than any which we have hitherto known.

That is the challenge: but there is no doubt who is best placed to meet it - we are.

PERSONAL

W. E. B. DuBois

PRIME MINISTER

TENTH ANNIVERSARY: THEMES FOR SPEECHES

You asked the other day for some material for the various speeches you will need to make at Party occasions next week to celebrate your 10th Anniversary. I attach some material on foreign affairs in case it is of help.

C. D. POWELL

25 April 1989

PERSONAL

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY

I would like your approval for the following media arrangements to mark your 10th anniversary. They follow the general approach which you have previously approved.

Objective

The declared aim of the Opposition is to ruin the anniversary and some sections of the media will need no encouragement to join in this.

But there is already a sense of occasion - witness the features already beginning to appear in newspapers and on radio and television and the publishing event it has become. There is also a fund of goodwill.

Proposals

Accordingly the objective should be to mark the anniversary - an outstanding achievement indeed - in a balanced and restrained way and to present such celebrations and media work as you undertake as fitting into an otherwise ordinary working day including Cabinet and Question Time.

We also need to ensure that access to you of press, radio and television is balanced and fair. Accordingly, I propose:

- Chris Moncrieff, accompanied by a woman reporter from Press Association, should interview you on the morning of May 3. I have consulted PA's Editor in Chief and he would intend to run the interview in verbatim Q&A form for the benefit of all their subscribers. This means that every daily news outlet in Britain would be able to mark the anniversary with an interview on the morning of your 10th anniversary. This technique worked brilliantly when you became the longest serving Prime Minister this century. By giving the interview on Wednesday, May 3 for use on May 4 you will also give hundreds of weekly newspapers a bite at the cherry, too.

I suggest you also allow PA to take a picture of you for general use.

- An appearance on the doorstep of No 10 at, say, 8.30am on Thursday, May 4 with your grandson in your arms. (NB - I have discussed this idea with Mark). This first picture of you with Michael, including your saying a few words to camera, would be a wonderfully human, newsy way to mark the occasion. The pictures would run throughout the day and across the world, starting with Breakfast TV.
- Cabinet: I think it would be a good idea to have an historic picture taken of Cabinet that day.
- After Questions: You should give short news interviews to:

BBC TV
ITN
Sky
TV-AM
BBC Radio
IRN
- We are inundated with requests for you to give longer interviews but in my view it is more important for you to give shorter crisper ones to mark the occasion rather than long winded analyses of the last decade. By May 4 the public will be getting fed up with looking back on the last 10 years. What they will want are your comments on how you feel on reaching this tremendous milestone, and your future plans.
- The leading British applicants for longer interviews are the BBC's David Dimbleby; BBC Newsnight's Donald McCormick; and Frank Bough's Sky TV news magazine programme.
- Aurum Books reception at 5.15pm, after the interviews, to launch the book of your speeches "The Revival of Britain" and the picture book "Ten Years at No 10". [NB - A substantial number of journalists will be invited].

Content with

May 3 PA interview and picture

May 4 Doorstep photocall with Michael 8.30am

Cabinet photo

Interviews with BBC radio and television; ITN; IRN;
Sky; TV-AM

Aurum Books reception?



BERNARD INGHAM
April 13, 1989

Amanda To vote



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

All members A Cabinet
can attend the 10 year dinner
on 4 May, with the exception
of Mr Newton. He is due to
address the Master Cutlers
and does not feel he can
withdraw.

Of course he AT
must keep his 1/4
date with
the Master Cutlers
not



cc Andrew Turnbull

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Press Secretary

February 27, 1989

In Belinda

Thank you for your note confirming the changes made to the introduction of Ten Years at Number 10.

A further thought has occurred to us about the first line. The use of the term "embarked on a breathtaking experiment" seems to us more journalistic than accurate. It is certainly sexist.

I wonder whether this introductory paragraph might not serve better:

"On 4th May 1979 Britain made a decisive break with the past. This was (as Enoch Powell once put it) 'to take the fundamentally masculine institution of British Government and put a woman in as captain' - moreover, a woman captain with a different approach and game plan".

Would you care to consider?

Yours sincerely

BERNARD INGHAM

Miss Belinda Harley



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Press Secretary

February 14, 1989

Mrs Hugo.

You state today that I have "sunk a score of ministerial careers before the time".

I should be interested in your evidence for this.

There is, of course, none.

But then contemporary journalism is not interested in evidence - or the lack of it - when it gets in the way of its prejudices.

Quality journalism is virtually dead.

Hugo Younger
Refusor

John Birt
Sun

● Guardian 14 2 89

rewards insult and derision

Commentary



Hugo Young

THE REHABILITATION of Mrs Edwina Currie, now being fast prepared, is one of the more telling episodes in the politics of late Thatcherism. It reveals as well as anything — and the catalogue of contenders is not short — the contempt in which the Prime Minister holds almost anyone's opinion but her own.

When Mrs Currie resigned her office as a junior minister of health, after making a famously misleading statement about the extent of salmonella in eggs, she immediately started to behave with unwonted decorum. She went into hiding. It was as if she saw that the embarrassment she had caused by her insatiable desire for the publicity of outrage could be exorcised only by giving up the stuff altogether. She undertook a period of fasting and abstinence. It seemed to be the response of a politician who wanted to work her passage into the esteem of her peers.

Admittedly, other reasons also prompted this painful withdrawal from narcotic temptation. Her words had brought a series of legal actions on the Government, and any more of them might well make matters worse. That was certainly the opinion of the whips, whose scourging injunctions played their part in the former minister's conduct. They were thought, for example, to have inspired her early resistance to the Select Committee on Agriculture, when it sought her testimony. But all this was consistent with the prudence of an ambitious politician. She would leave the field to more experienced hands, like Messrs Clarke and MacGregor.

Late last month, however, Mrs Currie, starved of attention for as much as four weeks, changed her mind. Or so it seemed. It emerged that she intended to write a book. This presented a tricky dilemma. While a book from this author at this time would scarcely be either appetising or profitable if it remained silent on the very issue which had propelled Mrs Currie's notoriety to stratospheric levels, it was also the case that if it dwelt on salmonella and eggs it would render her refusal to attend upon the Select Committee indefensible. But most MPs assumed, since they were given no reason to believe otherwise, that she would be telling her side of the eggs story: a false assumption, as it happened, but one much reinforced by news that the Sunday Times had paid serious money to serialise the work.

From that moment, Edwina-as-statesman, after a promising but brief excursion, was supplanted by the image which her colleagues better understood: Edwina, once again, as the politician who could not survive without instant fame, in the attainment of which she was more skilled than any of them. A coolness enveloped the Tory benches. It reached freezing-point when, under pain of a vote against her on the floor of the House, she finally answered

the Select Committee's summons. This committee, it must be conceded, contains few giants of modern politics. On the Conservative side, which is where the anathemas should have come from, it is notably lacking in men of steel or even dignity. In her 20-minute appearance, the former minister was allowed to get away with one of the most insulting performances any MP has recently exhibited to Parliament. It was marked neither by the just hauteur of rectitude defended, nor by the skill of a brilliant witness outwitting her tormentors. Mrs Currie was peevish and juvenile: a discredit to her political class, and to the Government she had lately adorned.

That appearance six days ago coincided, moreover, with another development. This was the recrudescence, in much more virulent form, of a national panic about food of every kind. Eggs were now only a small part of the problem. Cheese, and then apparently all kinds of pre-cooked dishes in the supermarket, were identified as dangerous. To these have now been added, as by some inexorable process of uncontrolled hysteria, anything which comes from cows or pigs.

To this travesty Mrs Currie has made a bigger contribution than any other politician. Some shortcomings in the food industry may have been smoked out along the way. Some of the consequences of public demand for cheap food, mass produced to "convenience" formulae, have been brought home. But ministers find themselves thrashing around to contain what is essentially uncontrollable: the panic which results from scare stories they have no decisive means of rebutting.

Reason, in short, has largely fled the scene. And the politician who recklessly started the process has decided that her accountability to the House of Commons extends no further than treating its inquiries with disdain. Seen from the Government's point of view, Mrs Currie had surely consigned herself to well-deserved oblivion.

But here we re-discover the measure of the Prime Minister's contrary whim. At the very moment of Mrs Currie's villainous apotheosis, a familiar voice is heard from Downing St extolling her extraordinary qualities. The gruff locutions of Mr Ingham, long since undisguisable in the unanimous stories of the Sunday lobby, have sunk a score of ministerial careers before their time. Here, uniquely, he promises benediction and resurrection. Mrs Currie's was a bravura show. Her guts were much admired. She had put the committee in its place. She will, we may be assured, be back.

This tells us two things about Mrs Thatcher. Maybe it only confirms what there were plenty of reasons to suspect. But the message is now clearer. One part of it is quite warming, but the other icy cold.

It may be good to know, in human terms, that she retains a capacity to be loyal to the few people she admires. Mrs Currie is the only woman in Tory politics for whom the Supreme Woman has shown much sign of having any time. Like Cecil Parkinson, but with rather less reason, she arouses Mrs Thatcher's stubborn refusal to permit conventional opinion to override a favourable prejudice.

Second, however, it is of truly arresting significance that Mrs Currie finally proved herself in the arena where any other observer, with an iota of respect for the invigilating role of the House of Commons, would have judged that she was ineligible for preferment: when she made it so clear to the Select Committee that she could offer it nothing but insult and derision.

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FILE SW

MR POWELL
MR GRAY
MR BEARPARK
MR MORRIS
PROFESSOR GRIFFITHS
MR LENNOX-BOYD
MR INGHAM
MR CATFORD
SIR ROBIN BUTLER

PRIME MINISTER'S TEN YEARS IN OFFICE

A number of people and organisations are arranging occasions on which to congratulate the Prime Minister when she reaches ten years in office. I put to her the suggestion that she should be the guest at a lunch for past and present Private Secretaries, PPS's, heads of Policy Unit and her personal assistants. She has accepted this invitation and Friday 5 May has been pencilled into the diary. My suggested list of invitees is attached. I would welcome comments for additions or deletions.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

13 February 1989

Sir Robin Butler
Sir Kenneth Stowe
Sir Clive Whitmore
Nigel Wicks
Sir Michael Alexander
Sir John Coles
Charles Powell
Tim Lankester
Michael Scholar
David Norgrove
Paul Gray
Michael Pattison
Nicholas Sanders
Willie Rickett
Tim Flesher
David Barclay
Mark Addison
Andy Bearpark
Dominic Morris

Robin Catford

Sir John Hoskyns
Ferdinand Mount
John Redwood
Professor Brian Griffiths

Bernard Ingham

Richard Ryder
Stephen Sherbourne
John Whittingdale

Ian Gow MP
Michael Alison MP
Archie Hamilton MP
Mark Lennox-Boyd MP

Sir Anthony Parsons
Sir Percy Cradock
Sir Alan Walters

Alison Wakeham
Sally Dixon
Caroline Ryder
Tessa Gaisman
Joy Robilliard
Amanda Ponsonby
Cynthia Crawford

David Wolfson

PRIME MINISTER

10 YEARS AS PRIME MINISTER

I am sure those who have worked closely with you at No.10 would welcome the opportunity to congratulate you on your decade as Prime Minister. One possibility would be to arrange a lunch for:-

- past and present Private Secretaries from Ken Stowe onwards
- the four Heads of the Policy Unit
- Bernard
- the Parliamentary and Political Secretaries
- Parsons/Cradock/Walters
- your personal assistants

This would produce a guest list of around 40.

There is a slot in the diary for lunch on Friday, 5 May. We would be delighted if you would agree to this.

AS

Parsons

Andrew Turnbull

10 February 1989

MJ2DGK

1 will 'do' all
= duties -
sub

file pm

MR. TURNBULL

PRIME MINISTER'S 10th ANNIVERSARY: NOTE FOR THE FILE

I had a word with Mark Thatcher yesterday about his proposed "family party".

He has spoken to the Prime Minister and Mr. Thatcher about the celebrations they would like to hold. They would like to have a party here on the evening of Thursday 4 May, and also a buffet lunch at Chequers on Sunday 7 May.

I explained to Mark that he would need to show you the list for security clearance, and that he would obviously be discussing them with the Prime Minister.

I have spoken to Dorothy at Chequers to say that the lunch there will be a buffet lunch for 50 people.

Mark did mention that he would like to send out invitations, but I think that this might be difficult, especially where Chequers is concerned, and where admit cards need to be sent out. It would probably be better if Sue Goodchild dealt with all the invitations in the usual way once she has the list from Mark and I attach a copy of a note I have sent him about this.

TESSA GAISMAN

7 February 1989

PM3AIE

MR. MARK THATCHER

Thank you so much for letting me know about celebration plans which are now in the diary.

I have spoken to Dorothy at Chequers to let her know that it would be a buffet lunch there on Sunday 7 May for 50 people.

With regard to the invitations and lists of guests, because of security I think it would be easier if Sue Goodchild actually sent out the invitations and admit cards, once you have compiled the lists, and I am sure that she will be happy to do this. I know that she normally sends invitations for receptions out about one month before the event, so perhaps you could let her or Andrew Turnbull have your proposed lists by then. If there are any queries, I know that Andrew or Amanda would be happy to help.

TESSA GAISMAN

7 February 1989

PM3AIF

Ref. A089/107

MR TURNBULL

Gifts to Mark the Prime Minister's Tenth Anniversary

Thank you for your minute of 10 January. I agree that it is not too early to think about this matter.

2. I do not think that it is possible to rely on the distinction made in your third paragraph between gifts made to the Prime Minister ex officio and gifts made to her personally. She is Prime Minister and gifts made to her on this occasion would be in respect of her anniversary as Prime Minister.

3. I think that in this case as in others one has to rely on the criterion in Questions of Procedure for Ministers that gifts should not, or should not appear to, place the Prime Minister under an obligation. At one extreme, it would clearly be absurd to say that gifts to the Prime Minister from, say, a member of her family to mark this occasion would put her under any obligation. At the other extreme, it would be unwise in present circumstances to accept a gift from GEC or Vickers, albeit to mark the anniversary. And we have the standing £75 rule about gifts from other Governments (or Governmental organisation).

4. My view is that what the Conservative party give to her does not put her under any obligation. Nor probably does a gift from the Corporation of the City of London (although the Prime Minister would probably not wish it to be lavish). But other cases would have to be judged against the criterion stated above, erring, if in doubt, on the side of scrupulousness to protect the Prime Minister's reputation.

R.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

13 January 1989

For weekend box

PRIME MINISTER

cc: Mr. Turnbull
Miss Robilliard

YOUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Following Bernard's note to you over the weekend, and the discussion at Monday's diary meeting, I thought I should set out what the week concerned looks like:

Monday 1 May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 May	Normal day (Questions and Audience)
Wednesday 3 May	Interview with Chris Moncrieff Lunch for 1922 Committee
Thursday 4 May	Normal day (Cabinet and Questions)
1700	Keep free for Bernard (interview)
Evening	Free
Friday 5 May	Day free Evening "Family party"

I intend to keep the Friday free although you may feel that it would be a good opportunity to visit Central Office if an invitation came from them for anything. The "family party" was put in the diary in September last year at Mark's request. I have not heard anything more from him about this but I am not sure whether this was something you wished to have here or at Chequers. I probably ought to let Dorothy know if it is to be at Chequers.

TESSA GAISMAN
12 January 1989



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

GIFTS

During May there will be a number of occasions to mark the Prime Minister's achievement of ten years in office, eg a dinner given by the 1922 Committee, a reception by the National Union of Conservative Associations, and the grant of the Freedom of the City of London. All of these occasions are likely to involve gifts being presented to the Prime Minister. This raises the question of whether and how the guidance in paragraphs 64-66 of "Questions of Procedure for Ministers" should apply.

Paragraph 64 states that "It is a well established and a recognised rule that no Minister or public servant should accept gifts, hospitality or services from anyone which would, or might appear to, place him or her under an obligation." I doubt if gifts given in the circumstances envisaged above do create such an obligation. It could also be argued that what the Conservative Party chooses to give to its leader is its affair, but since this would be in respect of service as head of the Government the argument does not run.

The guidance in QPM seems principally directed towards those occasions where a gift is made to someone ex officio, but what is involved here are gifts to the Prime Minister personally - there would be little point in anyone making a gift on any other basis.

I incline, therefore, to the view that paragraph 66 should not apply, but I would welcome your views.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

9 January 1989

EA

cc Mr Turnbull
Mrs Gaisman

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY

We need to clarify your media programme in connection with your 10th anniversary on May 4.

This assumes your continued refusal to anticipate the event which I think is right both politically and in terms of media management.

This concentrates attention on the day itself. I would like to propose the following programme for May 4 which I believe will serve your purpose and that of the Government:

- (i) An interview on the morning of May 3 with Chris Moncrieff so that he may put out material under embargo for general press, radio and television use on May 4; you will recall the huge coverage resulting from a similar operation in connection with a previous milestone.
- (ii) A photocall on the steps of No 10 early on May 4 - preferably about 8.30am to catch breakfast TV.
- (iii) Radio and television news interviews on the afternoon of May 4 after Prime Minister's Questions.

In this way you will get a great deal of publicity in all media both for your achievements and the Government's good works.

Content to proceed in this way, and for Tessa to set aside the time (which remains available).



BERNARD INGHAM

January 6, 1989

fa
Target
Can you arrange 1/2 hour for me plus x.y + 3 to talk to PM about this.
PRIME MINISTER

cc Mr Ingham *x*

Nigel
Mr Whittingdale *y*

Mr Hamilton *z*

TEN YEARS AS PRIME MINISTER

Please see also note in hat box. N.L.W.
I understand that you are already receiving invitations to events to celebrate your 10th Anniversary in office in May 1989. Another has just arrived from Lord Whitelaw in which he invites you, on behalf of the General Committee of the Carlton Club, to a reception in your honour in May 1989 to celebrate your 10th Anniversary in office. His letter is attached. I am sure that you will be receiving many more such invitations, and it seems worthwhile to take a general view on your reaction to such invitations now.

There are two broad possibilities:

- (i) accept some and decline others;
- (ii) accept none on the grounds that you would not wish to anticipate the anniversary, but say you will bear in mind all the invitations when the 10th Anniversary has actually been achieved. This was very much your approach with the 3 January record when you became the longest serving Prime Minister this century.

Bernard would, of course, give you advice much nearer the time on how best to mark the day of the anniversary.

Would you like to talk about this?

Yes
mt

N. L. W.

N L WICKS

26 February 1988

DASAIF

Discussed with PM.

*Agreed she would do so with PM.
At the time on the day - AH is dealing
and for the PM in conjunction with the Women's
League. J.W. would do a reply to Lord W
and say well attend reception. Otherwise
nothing else.
W. 7.3*



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

19 January 1988

Dear Charles,

On 13 January Soviet television carried an item on the news programme "The World Today" on the Prime Minister in the context of her record stay at Number 10. The BBC Monitoring Service have provided a video tape of it together with a translation and synopsis. I enclose both. The Monitoring Service have asked for their tape to be returned.

The translation appears to have been done by someone whose native language is not English and in places is a little tortured and journalistic. However Soviet Department have had a look at the tape and do not think there are any serious translation lapses.

The commentary fails to make up its mind as to what to say about Mrs Thatcher. The fact that Soviet TV put on such an item and showed numerous pictures of Mrs Thatcher receiving warm applause, acknowledged that she is a figure to be reckoned with on the world stage and that her popularity at home remains high. At the same time they cannot resist a number of digs at what they regard as failings in the Western way of life. But in a rather grudging manner they are forced to end on the up-beat note of the current state of bilateral relations. Taken as a whole, and given that Soviet TV is not exactly in the forefront of perestroika, glasnost and "new thinking" it constitutes a pretty remarkable tribute.

Yours ever,

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Removable! I have
CDG 19/1
rape,
y
you
with
it.

6. (TEXT): Records are established not just in sport but also in the politics. Margaret Thatcher has established such a record at the beginning of January. She spent the longest time of all in the post of the head of the British government in this century. And for the 270 years of the existence of the post of Prime Minister in Britain, this is the fourth longest serving time. On this topic many publications have appeared in the West and the papers are now virtually competing with each other in their strive to create the fullest possible and the most detailed portrait of the head of the ruling cabinet. [Video shows the Thatchers seated in the comfort of their home discussing presumably domestic affairs] Thatcher is the surname of her businessman husband, which was taken by Margaret Hilda Roberts, His money played, in her words, the decisive role in the fate of the future premier. [Video shows Thatcher preparing tea in her kitchen] The second daughter in the family of a seamstress and a small trader received a tough upbringing: compulsory and regular visits to the church, the cinema was considered almost a sin, there was no dancing. Her petty bourgeoisie background as many think, had played a considerable role in forming both, her character and her convictions. An Oxford graduate, a chemist by education and a mother of twins, Thatcher became keen on politics early. Politics became her love and her life. She has few personal friends and she has no hobbies and no interests apart from work. This is what writes Penny Junor her biographer and journalist. [Video shows Thatcher presiding a cabinet meeting, with Willy Whitelaw seated on her left, close up of smiling Thatcher, then over to Leon Brittain and Norman Fowler seated opposite her and listening intently, then over to a standing ovation of a large audience given to Thatcher, Thatcher then seen addressing the gathering, Cecil Parkinson on her right, close up of Thatcher.] Those who know her well and who met Thatcher at the friendly meetings

and at political debates note her sharp mind, her exceptional memory, especially for figures, names and persons. My policy, says Thatcher, is based on the things, on which I was brought up along with the millions like me: living according to one's means, saving for a rainy day and timely payment of bills. [Video clip of Thatcher addressing a gathering ends at this point]. Well, this modest simplicity, femininity and the ability to patiently listen to others, has for a long time not been fooling anyone. [Video shows a group of people entering a building; the entrance is guarded by two policemen. Over to a group of young people standing in front of No. 10]. The Iron Lady, as the British press called her, had stated as early as at the beginning of 1979 that she was going to head a government of convinced officials, in which she would not lose time with internal disputes. And for the entire nine years which followed Thatcher consistently adhered to this principle. [Video shows Thatcher standing on the rostrum and receiving another standing ovation from presumably the Party conference, Thatcher waving Conservative banner. Norman Tebbit and Geoffrey Howe in the background, over to another - different - address given by Thatcher]. Without a shade of sentimentality she parted with the ministers who did not fit in. As a result from 22 participants of the first session of her cabinet only three are now left apart from her: Geoffrey Howe, Peter Walker and George Younger [Video shows still photos of the three].

Well, and what had all this led to? What have Thatcher's nine years in office brought? Her supporters and followers usually say that under Thatcher Britain has acquired its former might. In this they have in mind both, the figurative and the absolutely concrete and direct sense. [Video shows Thatcher visiting presumably a naval base, Marconi establishment-camera focuses

at a Sting torpedo poster, a vessel marked A 364 and a torpedo underwater launch] May be ^{precisely} such torpedoes were used during the Falkland-Malvinas crisis, too, as a result of which - as London papers wrote - Britain demonstrated its purposefulness and the highest competence in military issues. The islands have now been in essence turned into NATO military base. [Video shows Thatcher leaving an RAF Rescue helicopter at the Falklands and being shown round the Falklands battlefields by the military. Dennis in the background.] And these aircraft are also a kind of mark of self-assertion of the Conservative government and its head. The American aircraft, which dropped the retribution bombs on Libya, as it attempted to advertise this bandit action, took off from the airbases located on British territory. Many citizens discouraged by Thatcher set themselves a question then: what is, after all, the meaning of British sovereignty? [Video shows Thatcher watching a fighter aircraft taking off from the RAF base at Stanley, a group of bomber aircrafts].

Madame Prime Minister has done over the years of her rule much more and much less than claim her friends and her enemies. This is the appraisal given by 'The Independent'. With Thatcher's name is linked the increased international authority of her country, a considerably higher economic stability and economic independence than before. The state has become richer. But on what and on whose account? [Video shows Thatcher speaking, Thatcher and her entourage, including Dennis, leaving a building surrounded by pressmen, Thatcher playing a hostess at a cocktail party - presumably during the visit to the US].

The heroic strike of the miners. They held out for more than a year. [Video shows a squabble between police and a miners' gathering a miner dragged by two policemen towards a parked van]. Then there was ^{the} printers' strike.

It also lasted a year. [Video shows mounted police clashing with the printers]. And now, the reduction of the number of strikes by almost several times, is sometimes called one of the achievements of the Conservative cabinet. But what is behind this? The well thought out and well planned operation on undermining the trade union movement. [Video shows Thatcher delivering an address in a resolute way with cheering in background, followed by a shot of the police breaking the pickets].

Perhaps, under Thatcher Britain has, indeed, become richer. However, millions of its citizens live in poverty. According to the report of the group on the struggle against children's poverty, the wages of 5,000,000 British workers do not reach the officially set minimum. [Video shows a charity worker giving food to the homeless, a queue of the homeless for their Christmas meal, more homeless people in the city streets].

Celebrating the record time of holding the post of the head of the government, the attempts are being made not to recall that Thatcher is the Prime Minister to whom the gathering of Oxford lecturers refused the award of the honorary title of Doctor of Sciences. This is a kind of a distinctive record: she is the first premier and the first Oxford graduate for whom the lecturers refused to vote. Thus they expressed their protest against cutting the allocations for education. [Video shows Thatcher in front of No.10 waving to onlookers, Dennis by her side; followed by the shot of Oxford dons leaving a building, followed by a demonstration carrying posters "No Degree for Thatcher" "Stop the Tory Cuts"]. The National Union of Teachers warned recently: if urgent measures are not undertaken, the coming year may be a year of education crisis. [Video: More shots of a demonstration in Oxford]. In the country of flourishing business, more than half of the teachers who

teach the pupils the basic business studies left the schools ^{last year.} / A draft bill which does not promise the improvement in this sphere, on the reform of the education system, will be discussed in the next few days in the House of Lords. [Video shows a group of young people travelling by bus].

A draft bill on preserving state secret will be discussed simultaneously. Of recent, the government has been with increased frequency resorting to the banning of these or those publications. The story concerning the publication of the memoirs of the former special services agent Wright, has taken up especially scandalous slant. A governmental veto has been imposed on him. And now they want to give legal nature to the desire to put ^a muzzle on the press. [Video shows pages of British press carrying headlines connected to the Spycatcher scandal, Wright reading a copy of Spycatcher, Thatcher at social functions.]

In drawing this jubilee portrait of the Prime Minister-record holder, it would be possible to recall that over the time of her rule the number of hospital beds has been reduced by 19,000. [Video shows Thatcher descending alone down a staircase]. We still have a lot to do, said Thatcher on the day of her political record. And this relates not just to the affairs within the country, but to the affairs on the international arena, too.

[Korzin to the camera]: We are, of course, pleased that ^{the} relations between the two countries ⁱ - the Soviet Union and Britain are ^{on} the upturn. They are an indivisible and composite part of the process of disarmament, which has commenced and which is gathering strength. Mutual relations between the USSR and Great Britain are now better than ever since the time of the second world war, stated Madame Thatcher. And, of course, it is very desirable that this continues. Moreover, as the public opinion polls show, the goodneighbourliness, mutual

STV-1

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ATTACHMENT

-6-

trust and not confrontation are much more to the liking of the British
citizens, too.

END OF ATTACHMENT

PRIME MINISTER

cc: Mr. Wicks

Ronnie Millar telephoned to ask if you would consider attending a dinner which he and David Hart propose to give to mark your "20th Century Record".

They would like to hold a dinner in the private room at The Mirabelle for the following and would like it to be as near to 3 January as possible:

You and Mr. Thatcher
Ian Gow
Tim Bell
Woodrow Wyatt
John Hoskyns
Ronnie Millar
David Hart
(no spouses)

I explained to Ronnie Millar that January was already becoming very busy and that you had an overseas trip in the New Year, but that I would, of course, talk to you about this invitation. I am not certain whether you would like to attend another dinner to mark this anniversary. You are already being honoured at a dinner by the Cabinet on 26 January.

Would you like me to decline for you?

TESSA GAISMAN

20 November 1987

NEW

Tuesday
24th Nov

CE
Felds

1230 p.m.

NCS

Lessa,

Could you pl
fix up 1/2 hr
PA, S.S +
BI time or
this

N.

1230 p.m.
1230 p.m.



10 DOWNING STREET

Angel

MPs

Previous pps.

The previous Chief Whip
apparently spoke to
Christopher Pount about
this about a year ago.

Jean
10/11



1. MR WICKS (2/1)
2. MR INGHAM

Prime Minister's Record Service

Following your discussions at the end of September, the Lord President sounded out the Lord Privy Seal, the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Welsh Secretary about the possibility of the Cabinet and Chief Whip giving the Prime Minister a dinner at the Carlton Club to mark the occasion of her becoming the longest serving Prime Minister this century. You will be pleased to learn that the idea was well received by all concerned. As a next step, therefore, the Lord President has written to all members of the Cabinet (copy attached) formally proposing the dinner. When everybody has signified their agreement, I will be in touch again to discuss possible dates.

M J Eland

M J ELAND
Private Secretary

Privy Council Office
19 October 1987

File 82W

MR. INGHAM

PRIME MINISTER'S RECORD

Thank you for your minute of 9 September. I entirely agree we should ensure that some notice is taken when Mrs. Thatcher becomes the longest-serving Prime Minister this century.

I suggest:

(1) the Cabinet should give her a (well-publicised) dinner.
You may want to ask the Lord President's advice.

(2) You should milk the opportunity for maximum public presentation. The Prime Minister will of course have to be consulted on media events.

(3) We should indeed organise a private celebration here at No.10

Precise timing of these events may be affected by the Prime Minister's travel plans but that is something that can be looked at later.

(N. L. WICKS)

11 September 1987


MR WICKS

PRIME MINISTER'S RECORD

The Prime Minister, according to our oft-checked calculations, will become the longest serving Prime Minister this century on January 3, 1988.

You may care to discuss what

1. we might recommend by way of public celebration;
and
2. we might organise by way of private celebration
in No 10.



BERNARD INGHAM

9 September 1987