

PRIME MINISTER

cc: Mr. Wolfson  
Mr. Ingham

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MEETING WITH THE WELSH TUC

The Welsh Office have produced this mass of briefing for your meeting with the Welsh TUC on Monday. Much of it is on detailed points which, if raised, you can ask Mr. Edwards to deal with. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will also be present and Mr. Butler too.

I suggest that you concentrate on the following briefs only:

- (i) The steering brief at A. ✓
- (ii) The briefing on public expenditure "cuts" in the Welsh Office programmes at E. ✓
- (iii) The regional policy briefing at F.
- (iv) The briefing on steel at G.

These are the main points which the Welsh TUC have said they will raise.

They might well, however, raise the subject of industrial relations legislation. There is briefing on this at L. But I have asked Mr. Mayhew to stand by to attend the meeting if you would like him to come. Shall I invite him?

Yes please.

I think the best way to play the meeting would be for you to ask the trade unionists to state their representations. You can then reply in general terms on the Government's overall strategy, and then, as you wish, turn to other Ministers to reply on the more detailed questions.

Just like the TUC proper in June, they will no doubt go straight out and tell the Press what happened. Bernard Ingham will be at the meeting so that he can, as necessary, give the Press our version.

P.S. I attach the letter on import controls referred to in today's Guardian: this is standard stuff and does not represent a change in policy.

26 October 1979