

PRIME MINISTER

You have agreed to give BBC Radio 4's 'Analysis' programme a 45-minute interview for broadcast tomorrow evening at 8.45. This has now been arranged for 9.30 tomorrow morning, preceded by a briefing at 9 a.m.

The interview will be conducted by Michael Charlton. The interview does, of course, give you an opportunity immediately after this week's economic statement, the unemployment figures and the start of a new session to look forward over the next twelve months and to get over our economic messages.

Mr. Charlton's style is, of course, more reflective and philosophical than hard news. The structure of his interview is therefore likely to follow this pattern:

- A look back at what you have achieved in your first session, encouraging you to explain your successes and failures;
- a look forward, on the basis of the Queen's Speech, towards your second session now underway;
- then, to move into economic policy covering un-employment, industrial relations, output, public expenditure, interest rates, 6 per cent cash limit and CBI/TUC relations;
- then, moving into institutions from the point of view of how a Prime Minister imposes her will upon the Government machine; what is the role of the Civil Service; how do you get it to do what you want done;
- then, briefly, into Party politics with your view of the new Labour leadership;



/- then

- then, turning to the international scene, the implications of Governor Reagan's election; Britain and Europe; East/West relations; CSCE and detente;
- NATO and defence (with, of course, some reference to defence spending); and the Middle East problem.

I think you will agree that I should not burden you with briefing in view of Mr. Charlton's reflective style and the extent to which all this is in your mind.

I am arranging with the BBC for the Lobby to hear the programme late afternoon before it is broadcast and to be given a transcript in order to secure wider coverage.

I have said that there is no objection to a BBC photographer coming in to take some pictures immediately before and after the recording.

 
B. INGHAM

25 November, 1980



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PRIME MINISTER

Analysis

As I indicated in today's press digest, your "Analysis" interview got good coverage in today's daily press. They concentrated on the economic message: we are reaching the trough and things should start to turn up towards the end of next year.

In addition, your interview got on to the BBC news bulletins last evening; has been transmitted abroad in the World Service; and will appear in the Listener. Your economic message (not to mention that on Northern Ireland) is at least being widely broadcast.

B. INGHAM

27 November, 1980