

MRS THATCHER

The following points emerged from a very helpful meeting I had with Ken Stowe.

Information he gave me

1. Once the magic figure of 318 is reached the Prime Minister will announce that he is going to the Palace. An audience has been arranged for him at 2.30 on Friday.
2. The Palace will in the meantime ring you and a separate audience is scheduled for 3.30 p.m.
3. One person can accompany you to the Palace but he/she will have to wait in an ante-room with Ken Stowe and Sir Philip Moore while you see the Queen alone. Who would you like to take - Mr Thatcher, Mark, Carol? (For security and other purposes you will have to exchange your trusty Rover for the PM's car at the Palace.
4. I informed Ken Stowe that you would want to keep George Newell. ✓
5. On arrival at Downing Street at say 4.00 p.m. you will be met by members of the staff plus David, Caroline, Tessa, myself etc.
6. A buffet supper has been arranged for the four of you, the Private Office, ~~and~~ the Chief Whip, and ourselves. W.W.
7. Do you want to sleep at Downing Street on Friday night? No
8. Do you want to keep any of the Detectives Norman, Barry or Bob ✓ and if so in what order of preference in case they can't be fitted in? DAVE ✓
9. There are four submissions and 17 Briefs waiting to be read. I stressed the importance of Comparability, the Teachers and Rhodesia. Ken Stowe asked whether you wanted copies given to Adam Ridley, David Wolfson and myself.

10. A Queen's speech has already been written. Ken Stowe emphasised that a Cabinet Committee would have to be set up immediately to examine it on Monday and Tuesday for discussion at the first Cabinet which is scheduled for Thursday.

11. You may also need to form a Cabinet Committee to discuss Rhodesia.

12. Ken Stowe Advised that for security reasons it would be best to see your Cabinet appointments at 'X' minute intervals on Saturday afternoon prior to a Saturday evening/Sunday morning announcement.

13. Would you prefer to see Schmidt at Downing Street or Chequers? Ken Stowe's advice is Downing Street since you will be short of time and unfamiliar with the domestic arrangements at Chequers.

14. Would you like to give a dinner for Schmidt on Thursday evening?

15. Callaghan should be offered Chequers though he won't probably accept. Ken Stowe mentioned that the 1964 and 1970 handovers were unpleasant. They shouldn't be repeated.

Information I gave him

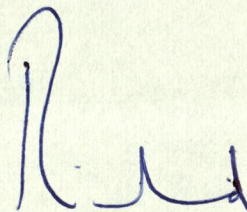
1. I told Ken Stowe that the following would definitely be on your personal staff: myself (Political Secretary) Caroline Stephens (Personal Assistant), three secretaries and a Press Secretary (unnamed). In addition I informed him that David Wolfson and Adam Ridley would require offices at once.

2. I indicated that you were considering appointing a housekeeper.

3. I also mentioned that a number of other appointments would be made along the lines of the Donoghue Unit.

4. We discussed your visit to Perth on Saturday week, the launching of the European Manifesto and Airey's Memorial Service.

5. The overall atmosphere was one of friendliness and cooperation. We both agreed that the Private and Political Offices should work in unison with constant exchange of essential information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ryder', with a stylized, cursive script.

Richard Ryder

2nd May

(F)

MRS THATCHER

The following points emerged from a very helpful meeting I had with Ken Stowe.

Information he gave me

1. Once the magic figure of 318 is reached the Prime Minister will announce that he is going to the Palace. An audience has been arranged for him at 2.30 on Friday.
2. The Palace will in the meantime ring you and a separate audience is scheduled for 3.30 p.m.
3. One person can accompany you to the Palace but he/she will have to wait in an ante-room with Ken Stowe and Sir Philip Moore while you see the Queen alone. Who would you like to take - Mr Thatcher, Mark, Carol? (For security and other purposes you will have to exchange your trusty Rover for the PM's car at the Palace.
4. I informed Ken Stowe that you would want to keep George Newell.
5. On arrival at Downing Street at say 4.00 p.m. you will be met by members of the staff plus David, Caroline, Tessa, myself etc.
6. A buffet supper has been arranged for the four of you, the Private Office, ~~and~~ the Chief Whip, and ourselves.
7. Do you want to sleep at Downing Street on Friday night?
8. Do you want to keep any of the Detectives Norman, Barry or Bob and if so in what order of preference in case they can't ^{all} be fitted in?
9. There are four submissions and 17 Briefs waiting to be read. I stressed the importance of Comparability, the Teachers and Rhodesia. Ken Stowe asked whether you wanted copies given to Adam Ridley, David Wolfson and myself.

(6)
Dispositions
already made.

10. A Queen's speech has already been written. Ken Stowe emphasised that a Cabinet Committee would have to be set up immediately to examine it on Monday and Tuesday for discussion at the first Cabinet which is scheduled for Thursday.

11. You may also need to form a Cabinet Committee to discuss Rhodesia.

12. Ken Stowe Advised that for security reasons it would be best to see your Cabinet appointments at 'X' minute intervals on Saturday afternoon prior to a Saturday evening/Sunday morning announcement.

⑦ 13. Would you prefer to see Schmidt at Downing Street or Chequers? Ken Stowe's advice is Downing Street since you will be short of time and unfamiliar with the domestic arrangements at Chequers.

⑧ 14. Would you like to give a dinner for Schmidt on Thursday evening?

⑨ 15. Callaghan should be offered Chequers though he won't probably accept. Ken Stowe mentioned that the 1964 and 1970 handovers were unpleasant. They shouldn't be repeated.

⑩ (2) Information I gave him

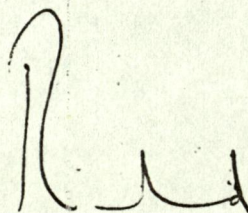
1. I told Ken Stowe that the following would definitely be on your personal staff: myself (Political Secretary) Caroline Stephens (Personal Assistant), three secretaries and a Press Secretary (unnamed). In addition I informed him that David Wolfson and Adam Ridley would require offices at once.

2. I indicated that you were considering appointing a housekeeper.

3. I also mentioned that a number of other appointments would be made along the lines of the Donoghue Unit.

4. We discussed your visit to Perth on Saturday week, the launching of the European Manifesto and Airey's Memorial Service.

5. The overall atmosphere was one of friendliness and cooperation. We both agreed that the Private and Political Offices should work in unison with constant exchange of essential information.



Richard Ryder

2nd May