

Prime Minister

Party Conference Speech - Friday, 16th October

1. John Hoskyns and Ronnie Millar know that you have asked John Selwyn Gummer to help on this speech.
2. Understandably, and for the best reasons, this does not meet with their whole-hearted approval.
3. Peter Utley came to see me yesterday morning and mentioned that John and Ronnie had asked him to help with their draft, upon which, exceptionally, they are embarking already.
5. My own view is that we should "let this be". As you know, John Selwyn Gummer is going to let you have a preliminary draft early next month. If John Hoskyns, Ronnie and Peter are also working on an alternative draft, so be it.
6. I certainly think that it would be a mistake to discourage the "Gang of Three" from their efforts.

IAN GOW
13th August 1981