

PRIME MINISTER

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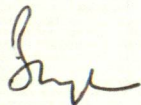
WASHINGTON POST

You have agreed to give an interview to Len Downie, Washington Post, on April 21 surveying your first 3 years and looking forward over the rest of this Parliament and beyond. April 21 is likely to be a very difficult date but you will presumably wish to maintain the invitation at this stage.

If you get a moment to think over Easter, it might be useful to address your mind as to how you would like your first 3 years to be viewed - Len Downie thinks you have a lot of what he describes as "negative achievements" to your credit; and how you propose to build on those "negative achievements" to develop over the next two years a positive programme with winning appeal to the voters.

Put another way, how do you propose to use your hard won successes in terms of changing habits, attitudes and performance? And what is your vision of the Britain you want, having successfully negotiated the last 3 years and, we hope, the Falkland Islands crisis.

Mr Downie will not look narrowly at the economy. He will be anxious to hear you develop your view on the quality of life and society. He wants to get a real feel for how you plan to build your Britain of the future on the foundations he feels have been laid.



B. INGHAM

8 April 1982