

CONFIDENTIAL

MR. WHITMORE

Wales/Hereford and Leominster

1. Wales

I have not burdened the Prime Minister with paper. You will see that the attached folder contains an outline of the programme, together with the guest lists for the two receptions and the top table. I have arranged for all other members of the party to have a note of the seating arrangements for the rest of the Prime Minister's entourage.

I believe you have already told the Prime Minister of the points raised in this morning's discussion at the Home Office, including the possible threat to lighting arrangements. I have not passed this on to anyone, other than the detectives who will have learned the details previously.

2. Hereford and Leominster

I attach a folder assembled for the Prime Minister on the basis of various offerings. If you are content with this I will have copies made for the other main members of the party.

On Thursday night, you will need to work on the Bulmers speech, and to ensure that the Prime Minister is adequately briefed on three Bulmers issues which may arise at her Press Conference. These are an EEC Directive, French and German barriers to cider imports, and the threat of redundancies. There will be material on the first two of these points in the Prime Minister's folder. But John Vereker is also doing a separate folder on Bulmers, including personality notes. This might be the best material for the Thursday night session. You may wish to make sure that the Prime Minister takes another look at that special folder whilst driving from the SAS to Bulmers.

I am also giving you a folder with some additional background papers. These include the complete Party brief, the SAS programme, a letter from Leominster District Council including personality notes on its Chairman and Vice Chairman, notes from DOI and DOE

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with general background on the area. I will add any other "general interest" material which we get tomorrow.

MAO

10 December 1980

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PRIME MINISTER

Mr Whitmore

CARDIFF AND HEREFORD: PRESENTATION

You will wish to be aware of the following presentational points for your visit to Cardiff and Hereford:

Cardiff:

- i CBI Dinner: In addition to press coverage, radio and TV are expected to record/film your speech. The CBI will do their best to stick to their timetable so that you should be speaking by about 9.15 pm and should, thus, catch ITN and other bulletins at 10.00 pm.

Hereford:

- i SAS: There will be no advance publicity for your visit. MoD will take photographs for archive purposes. MoD are content for us to announce the visit after it has taken place. I shall let it be known to the journalists covering the rest of the visit and Mr Ingham will mention it to the Lobby.
- ii Bulmers: We expect a large media turn-out, including at least two Lobby correspondents (David Rose, ITN; Nicholas Comfort, 'Daily Telegraph').

I intend to release your speech in London and Hereford without a "Check Against Delivery" proviso so that the essential message can be read into the record even if you do not stick precisely to the text.

We are advised, by the way, that there is no truth in the Paul Foot report in today's 'Daily Mirror' (copy attached) that the firm has sent 90-day redundancy notices to their workers. They have, however, informed the Department of Employment that they may have to make some people redundant in the New Year. Bulmers also say there are no "signs of mutiny" among the workers. In the circumstances, the text of the speech does not need changing.

You are due to end your visit to Bulmers with a short news conference. I suggest you open with a short repetition of the essential message in the speech about the importance of a positive partnership between management and employees. In answer to questions on that subject you will probably want to emphasise the Government's encouragement for good management/employee relations without going so far as to suggest a major Government-led campaign.

The news angle in your speech is the fact that you are giving Prime Ministerial backing to this cause which does not generally make news (Mr Prior spoke again on the subject yesterday - Tuesday - but without press coverage).

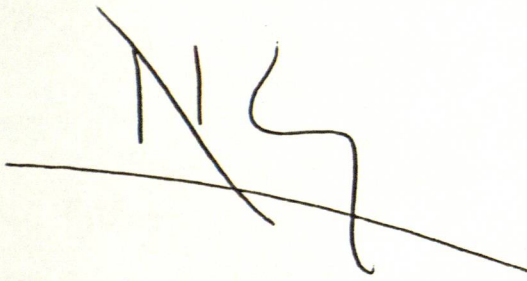
Inevitably you are bound to get questions on other subjects at the news conference: fall-out from your speech in Cardiff; your SAS visit (Why did you go there? Who did you meet? What did you see? What did you learn? etc); and any issues of the day.

/Leominster:

Leominster:

There will be ample picture opportunities at Paradise Court, Leominster. You are due to visit two units in this old people's housing complex, handing over the keys to the residents of one of them. The homes are small and it will be necessary for photographers to queue for their pictures, coming indoors two or three at a time.

2. Content with the arrangements?



NEVILLE GAFFIN

10 December, 1980.