

MR. COLES

REQUEST BY ARD

I would in normal circumstances agree that we should recommend the Prime Minister to respond positively to the ARD approach, especially in advance of the Economic and NATO Summits. It could still be helpful if it could be confined to the Falklands.

But since it will go much wider can we be sure that in the EC context - Luxembourg Compromise, Mandate, farm price settlement - the Prime Minister will say what the Germans will want to hear?

You may feel that overall the balance is in favour of a positive answer, even though there are risks.

If so, the Prime Minister could record on Wednesday June 2, if she does not object to a series of media events in one day - she has potentially BBC and ITN broadcasts as well as dinner as guest of the Association of American Correspondents.

[Handwritten signature]

B. INGHAM

27 May 1982

Mr. Ingham

On x I think we need to get our views across to the Germans. Hence, I have very clear.

A. J. C. - $\frac{27}{5}$

ARD

15 MINUTES.

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ANDREW CARNEGIE.



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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 May 1982

Mr. Lyham
of from this.

Dear John,

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The first German television channel, ARD, has asked for an interview with the Prime Minister. It would form part of a one hour programme on 'Britain's Relations with her Allies' to be shown at peak viewing time on 3 June. The programme would cover all aspects of relations with our Allies, obviously including the Falklands crisis, of which the German media have shown an imperfect understanding. The Foreign Secretary thinks it would be helpful in giving a large German audience an authoritative statement of the British position if the Prime Minister could give the interview. He very much hopes therefore that she can agree to do so.

Yours ever,

F N Richards

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

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21 MAY 1992

