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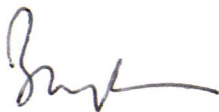
PRIME MINISTER

German Television

Could I make one last plea - a plea supported by Mr. Alexander - for you to give the West German TV Channel ARD an interview on Wednesday, November 12 at 9.45 a.m. before your visit to Bonn?

I can assure you that you are not doing too much European TV, and certainly not too much German TV. You should perhaps do more British TV and I shall be putting a minute in your weekend box on this.

If you agree to see ARD, we would specify duration. In my view, it would be sensible to do a maximum of 15 minutes. That would make it reasonably crisp and pointed and would be economical of your working time.



B. INGHAM

Agreed  
no

6 November, 1980

PRIME MINISTER

French and German Media

You will recall that recently I raised with you two possible overseas media engagements:

- i. an interview with the West German TV channel ARD before your visit to Bonn; and
- ii. an interview with the French journal L'Express.

On the latter you will recall that you promised Monsieur Revel an interview sometime in the future; not in November as Monsieur Revel claimed. Nonetheless, you were inclined to give him an interview in November on the basis that it would get no easier later on.

So far as West German TV is concerned, you said you were reluctant because it was between two major speeches (see attached diary).

In fact, Caroline has pencilled in an interview with German TV for Wednesday, November 12 - 9.45 - 10.30. This is not, of course, firm and we have not given German TV any encouragement.

But I must say that I would much prefer you to give German TV an interview at this time than to offer time to L'Express. You have done far more with the French media than with the German and I think it is desirable to space out your appearances. Moreover, the German interview at this stage would be much more topical, given your visit to Bonn.

Content therefore, notwithstanding the Lord Mayor's Banquet on Monday, November 10 and your visit to West Germany the following weekend, to offer an interview to West German TV and to play L'Express into the new year?

  
B. INGHAM

4 November, 1980

*Handwritten notes:*  
Aren't we doing Loos  
much L'Express T.V.?  
mb





10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 1980

Saturday 8 November

0900 Hair  
1000 Keep free - No. 10.  
1900 Arrive at Royal Entrance of Royal Albert Hall, to  
be met by Sir Kirby Laing  
1900 Festival of Remembrance +DT - Royal Albert Hall

Sunday 9 November

1245 for 1300 Remembrance Sunday - Cenotaph  
Lunch with Bishop of London +DT - London House,  
6 Barton Street

Monday 10 November

1000 Media  
1015 Chief Whip  
1045 Chief Whip, Home Secretary and Chairman  
1130 Mr. Biffen for Lord Mayor's Banquet Speech  
1630 Hair  
1700 Make-up  
1830 Lord Mayor's Banquet +DT: Reply to the Toast "Her  
Majesty's Ministers" - evening dress

Tuesday 11 November

0900 Messrs. Howe, Gow, Ingham and Sanders  
0930 K/F for Queen's Speech  
1100 E ?  
1230 Peggy Metcalfe to say goodbye  
1300 Lunch and Questions briefing  
1515 Questions  
1600 OD  
1800 Audience  
1945 for 2000 Dinner in honour of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother  
+DT (black tie) - No. 10.

Wednesday 12 November

0900 Briefing for West German TV Interview  
0945 Interview with German TV  
1145 Sir Ray Pennock and Sir Terence Becket - No. 10.  
1300 for 1315 Lunch for Industrialists +DT - No. 10.  
1600 Meeting of Ministers - No. 10.  
1830 Gordon Reece's Farewell Cocktail Party +DT - Garrick Club

Thursday 13 November /...

Thursday 13 November

0830 Hair  
0900 Chancellor of the Exchequer  
0930 Messrs. Gow, Howe, Ingham and Sanders  
1030 Cabinet  
1300 Lunch and Questions briefing  
1515 Questions  
1630 K/F for West German visit briefing  
1800-1830 Mr. Ingemund Bengtsson: Speaker of the Swedish Riksdag

Friday 14 November

1000-1030 Foreign Secretary  
To Chequers

Saturday 15 November

Evening Return to London

Sunday 16 November

0900 Hair - Flat  
?1400 Depart London

Monday 17 November

Early eve. Visit to West Germany  
Return to London

Tuesday 18 November

0900 Messrs. Howe, Gow, Ingham and Sanders  
0915-0930 President of Nigerian Senate: Dr. Joseph Wayas - No. 10.  
0930 K/F for statement  
1155 Depart for Victoria Station  
1210 Arrive Hudson's Place  
1230 Arrival of the King of Nepal  
1300 Lunch with Private Secretaries  
1630-1730 K/F for Rome briefing  
1730 E  
2030 State Banquet for King of Nepal +DT (evening dress and  
decs) - Buckingham Palace

Wednesday 19 November

0830 Hair  
0900 OD  
1000-1100 Hand over three motability cars - Downing Street  
1100 Cabinet  
1200 Talks  
1230 Private talk with King of Nepal  
1245 for 1300 Lunch for King of Nepal +DT  
1430 onwards K/F for Queen's Speech  
1830 Audience  
2000 for 2015 Dinner Party for Members of the Government  
United and Cecil Club Reception

Thursday 20 November

Afternoon Opening of Parliament  
2030 Debate on the Queen's Address  
State Banquet given by King and Queen of Nepal in  
honour of HM Queen Elizabeth +DT (white tie and decs) -  
Claridges



10 DOWNING STREET

Mr. Ingham

You are going to  
talk to the PM about  
this.

It would be helpful  
to be so soon so that  
we can discuss which programme  
with ARs, if PM agrees,  
subject areas and briefing.

Chuter

29/10



PRIME MINISTER

WEST GERMAN MEDIA

Last spring you agreed in principle to give an interview to the West German TV channel, ARD, before the Venice Economic Summit.

2. In view of the outcome of discussion in the European Council and the Foreign Ministers' meeting in April/May on the question of our EC Budget contribution, you subsequently decided that you would prefer not to do this interview. So we told ARD that we would come back to them when another opportunity presented itself. ARD have now asked again if they may interview you before your visit to Bonn on 16/17 November.

3. I think there is a good case for granting this request now. West Germany's position as one of our major allies justifies a special effort from time to time, particularly now that Helmut Schmidt has just won another four-year term. An interview prior to your visit to Bonn next month would enable you to underline the British Government's commitment to NATO in an increasingly dangerous world and our commitment to the EC, where West Germany's co-operation on current problems is crucial.

4. An interview on West German television would also provide an opportunity to put across to the German public your confidence about the long term prospects for the British economy, which is of considerable interest since Germany has now overtaken the United States as our number one export market.

5. You have only given one interview so far to the West German media as Prime Minister ('Die Welt' in March), so an interview to West German television would help to balance the attention recently given to the French media. Finally, we have an outstanding commitment to ARD arising from the cancellation of the interview before the Venice Summit.

6. If you agree in principle to an interview with ARD, then we need to think carefully about timing. The Pope will be in Germany on 15-19 November so during that time the German media will be preoccupied with his visit. It would therefore be preferable to record an interview for screening on 13 or 14 November before the Pope's visit. ARD have a daily current affairs programme in the evening which would provide a suitable vehicle.

7. I recommend that you should give a 15-20 minute interview to ARD on Wednesday 12 November at 0945 for screening on 13 or 14 November. The FCO, our Ambassador in Bonn and Michael Alexander support this proposal and Caroline says it would be convenient in diary terms.

8. Agree?

B. INGHAM

28 October, 1980.

*Am reluctant. It is between 2 major speakers*