

MR RICHIE

PRIME MINISTER

Visit to North East - Friday 12th March 1982

1. In connection with this tour it was agreed that you should visit an industrial concern in the morning, followed by a lunchtime reception for Party workers, before going on to launch Sir Y K Pao's ship in Sunderland.
2. Cecil Parkinson has suggested that you should visit NEI Power Engineering Group in Gateshead to perform the official opening. This is a brand new factory with new technology involving robotics, and they are taking on additional staff. You will recall that this is the group to which Airey Neave was a Director and its Chairman then was the late Sir James Woodeson.
3. Joan Reeve, the Northern Area Agent, felt that she should point out that you will have been to both Gateshead and Sunderland twice and she would have preferred you to visit Teesside in the morning.
4. I attach a note from Joan Reeve together with two possible draft programmes.

Do you have a preference?

Derek

1st February 1982

*The NGE sounds a  
 good idea - unless the  
 whole head of demo is broken  
 here exceeds what possibility  
 at Teesside not*