

PRIME MINISTER

KEN DONLAN

You have agreed to see editors and commentators from time to time and were to have seen Ken Donlan, editor of the 'News of the World', on 14 July. This had to be cancelled.

2. He is now coming in for an hour at 10.00 am tomorrow. The purpose of the meeting is for him to introduce himself to you, to get to know you better and for you to brief him on Government policy.


3. The 'News of the World' has been very helpful to the Government over the last 12 months and will continue to be under Ken Donlan.

4. He succeeded Bernard Shrimmsley in May, moving over from the 'Sun' where he had been news editor. Before that he had been news editor of the 'Daily Mail'. You met him at Larry Lamb's lunch at the 'Sun' earlier this year.

5. Tomorrow's meeting will be purely for background, but Mr Donlan may take some notes to refresh his memory.

6. He is also likely to invite you to contribute a piece to the 5 October issue of the 'News of the World' - ie that immediately before the Party Conference - on the Conservative ethos and policies. If you do not feel able to respond yourself - and he fully takes the point that you will want to keep your powder dry for the Conference - he would welcome ideas on another contributor. He has thought of Lord Thorneycroft, but would prefer a member of the Government. John Nott? Sir Keith Joseph?

7. I am afraid I shall not be able to attend tomorrow and I have apologised to Mr Donlan. Charles Anson will sit in on the meeting.



B. INGHAM

11 September 1980;

