

B. Ingham.
May we talk?
es.

Prime Minister 1
What is the maximum
amount of time you are
prepared to give her.
I have only about 3
free Wks before the
Summer Recess. C.J.
413

CAROLINE STEPHENS

MENDOZA PORTRAIT

You will recall that last year Angela Rippon approached me on behalf of June Mendoza, the only woman member of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters, in the hope that the Prime Minister would sit for her at some convenient time.

The Prime Minister agreed in principle and asked me to explore the possibilities for the summer Recess.

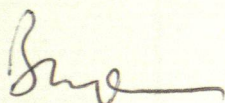
Mrs Mendoza (who has painted The Queen, Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles and a number of Presidents and Prime Ministers across the world) has now returned to me keenly interested in taking advantage of whatever facilities we can offer her during the long Recess.

She says that in an ideal world she would like eight sessions of up to 1½ hours each, but recognises that the Prime Minister may well not be able to afford that amount of time, even though it would be possible for her to do some work, including dictation, during the sittings.

I have told Mrs Mendoza that I think that such an amount of time is likely to be far more than the Prime Minister could afford. Mrs Mendoza says she could manage with less but it would be important for her to know how much time she would have available at the outset of the project. She tells me that it is not essential to have regular sittings and that they could be spread over a number of months.

I realise that this presents a very difficult problem for you but the Prime Minister was rather keen to sit for Mrs Mendoza and I think we must do our best to try to carry through the project.

You may care to discuss. Alternatively could you give me some dates and the maximum time that the Prime Minister is prepared to allow over a given period?



6-5 sittings
mt

B. INGHAM

4 March 1982