



Conservative Central Office

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From
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY
The Rt. Hon. Cecil Parkinson

CEP/AM

14th May 1983

Dear Colleague,

I would like to thank you and all our supporters in your Association who have worked so hard during this past year. You have had to face the most wide ranging redistribution of boundaries and the recent vitally important local government elections.

June 9th will be a fateful day for our country. All General Elections are important but surely there has never been as much at stake as there is on this occasion. The choice before our country is between continuing progress towards a brighter and more secure future or taking a huge step towards the centrally planned Socialist State which is the promise of the Labour Manifesto.

It is encouraging that the opinion polls all point towards a victory for our Party, but the only poll which counts is the one which will actually decide the shape of the next Parliament. If we take that for granted, we do so at our peril. For there remains a very real danger that a Labour Government could be elected by accident. We have constantly to remind the people of Britain that the only way to ensure the return of a Conservative Government is to turn out and support Conservative Candidates.

Any temptation for voters to take a Conservative success for granted or to experiment with third parties could produce a division in the non-Labour majority which could put Mr Foot into Downing Street with the support of less than a third of the electors. And Mr Foot is pledged to render this country defenceless and put at risk our trade with our most important markets. Labour policies threaten not only our standard of living but our way of life. They would damage such basic liberties as the right to buy your own home and to secure the future of your family. I urge every Conservative supporter to work in this election as though your very freedom depends upon it; because the truth is that it does.

We shall be using every means of communication at the centre. We are dependent upon our candidates and organisation in the constituencies to provide a maximum impact locally.

I know I can count on your full support in ensuring an all-out campaign in your constituency and send my best wishes to you all.

Yours Sincerely,
Cecil Parkinson