

Note for the FileMEETING BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND MICHAEL SPICER  
WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

Mr Michael Spicer came to see the Prime Minister on Wednesday 14th September to discuss his future as Deputy Chairman of the Conservative Party.

Mr Spicer told the Prime Minister that it had been a bit of a blow to him that John Selwyn-Gummer had been appointed Chairman of the Conservative Party. Mr Spicer had earlier thought that there was some chance that he might be in the running for the post. While the post remained unfilled he had felt it right to press his own candidature with some persistence and firmness. But now that the Prime Minister has decided to appoint Mr Gummer, Mr Spicer fully accepted and respected her decision and placed himself at the Prime Minister's disposal to help as the new Chairman's Deputy in any way that he could. He stressed that he did not want to stay in position as Deputy Chairman indefinitely but he thought that it would be helpful for reasons of continuity that he should stay on for as long as he was needed to help the new Chairman settle in. The Prime Minister confirmed that she was delighted that Mr Spicer should continue as Deputy Chairman. She appreciated his willingness to do so under the new circumstances and she indicated that when the next shuffle of Cabinet posts took place she would hope to offer him a post in the Government with some degree of choice.

MICHAEL ALISON

15.9.83