

Note: DoE are setting this up.
B/f in one month to check
progress.

CONFIDENTIAL

DMS
25/6

I agree that we should make plans in confidence for the time being. I suggest that in making them we should take account of the possibility of getting you to the various locations without having to run the gauntlet, using a helicopter if necessary, and choose the places to visit accordingly.

1. MR BUTLER
2. PRIME MINISTER

POSSIBLE VISIT TO LIVERPOOL

TEFB
22.8.

You asked us to explore the possibility of arranging a visit to Liverpool later in the year, which could be set up for Mr Jenkin but taken over by you at the last minute.

I have been discussing dates with Mr Jenkin's office. The best time, if you agree, seems to be between your return from overseas (assuming you go) and the Party Conference. This points to either Tuesday 2 October, Wednesday 3 October or Friday 5 October. The latter is the last working day before the Party Conference, so you may prefer either the Tuesday or the Wednesday. The International Garden Festival will still be on, although it would no doubt be wise to fit in some other engagements on Merseyside as well.

The argument for keeping your plans secret until the last minute is of course to minimise the inevitable disruption and demonstrations. But there is an argument the other way, that you could be criticised locally for "slipping in and out unannounced".

Perhaps the best course, if you agree, might be to keep your plans quiet (and provisional) for the moment, but review the question of a prior announcement in the light of circumstances nearer the time. We would not normally announce your regional visits until a few days beforehand in any event, although news of them often leaks out earlier.

Agree to make provisional plans for a visit to Liverpool in early October, in confidence for the time being?

Yes [signature]

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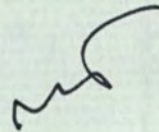
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-2-

Do you prefer Tuesday 2 October or Wednesday 3 October?

Tuesday

DMS



22 June 1984

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