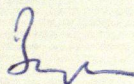


MR SHERBOURNE

You asked me for my comments on Jeffrey Archer's suggestions for Prime Ministerial meetings with Editors.

I agree that Sir David English should be invited to the occasional dinner or reception, as indeed he is. I am much less happy about Stewart Steven, Editor Mail on Sunday, who is not my cup of tea as a journalist and is putting his paper behind the SDP. On the other hand, he might merit stroking, but in his case I would suggest a reception rather than a dinner.

Gordon Greig and Robin Oakley have the normal access of members of the Lobby to the Prime Minister and I do not think they should be singled out for particular access. One of the great strengths of this Government is that it has not, at working level, operated what used to be called a "White Commonwealth", and I do hope Mr Archer does not want to start one now.



BERNARD INGHAM  
28 October 1985





## Conservative Central Office

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From  
THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY  
Jeffrey Archer

STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Stephen Sherbourne Esq.,  
10 Downing Street,  
London SW1

16th October 1985

Dear Stephen,

Many thanks for your letter of 14th October.

I do feel that Stewart Stevens, the Editor of the Mail on Sunday, and Sir David English, the Editor of the Daily Mail should be on a list of invites that you have suggested for a major dinner or a forthcoming reception.

I would also suggest Gordon Greig and Robin Oakley.

From time to time I will be sending you other names of people who have given support to the Government and are sometimes forgotten.

Best wishes.

Yours  
Jeff