

Prime Minister

YOUR PRESS CONFERENCE

This is going to be one of the trickier Euro-Council press conferences, even though you have been by no means isolated. It arises from the different approaches to South Africa both within and without the Government and your party and the media's capacity for widening and sharpening differences.

Moreover, the British media are showing no interest whatsoever in any other issue. They have exhibited a massive boredom with our forthcoming Presidency and your jobs, internal market and agriculture/GATT priorities. For political reasons, however, I think you should mention these in your opening remarks (see Annex I attached).

It will also be important for domestic reasons to include a short reference to post-Chernobyl action in your opening remarks.

Other Points to Watch

Four other issues which might arise are:

- the Guardian story today retailing Ministerial gossip about differences between yourself and the Foreign Secretary; (you will need to be clear how you both handle this on stage)

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- any meeting with Dr Fitzgerald, and any mention in it of the Stalker affair (which I have played severely away from No 10);
- Nicaragua (International Court of Justice decision today; and the US move);
- your request to Sir Robert Armstrong to stay on until the next election (which has not so far been mentioned to us).

Mechanics

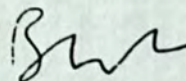
The press centre is across the road and your detectives will take you there. The press conference will be held in a tent-like structure which will be crowded and rather noisy if a police helicopter is in action.

We shall have to clear the tent immediately after the press conference in order that you may give your usual four radio and TV interviews.

In addition, on this occasion, I wonder whether I could ask you to give two more TV interviews:

- i) to TV-AM, the commercial breakfast programme; and
- ii) Euro-TV Channel who want to interview you on your forthcoming Presidency for broadcast in all Community countries next Tuesday.

I realise this is an additional burden and you could pass Euro-TV to the Foreign Secretary if you wish. But I think it would be useful for you politically to do TV AM



Bernard Ingham

DRAFT SPEAKING NOTE

This has been an important and very serious-minded European Council which has addressed a number of formidable issues in a constructive spirit.

The outcome will give the UK a great deal of work during its six month Presidency starting on 1 July - work which, over and above South Africa, will have major international significance.

I know your interest is understandably concentrated upon South Africa but I must first deal with other issues which are of direct interest to the people we represent in the Community.

We came to The Hague with a very clear idea of how we wanted to set the scene for our Presidency. With the help of the retiring President, Dr Lubbers, who has done an excellent job, we have been able to establish clear priorities.

First, jobs. We have cleared the decks for action on measures to create more jobs, through the encouragement of enterprise, and to help those who have been unemployed for a long time back into work. We expect Social Affairs Ministers to give their wholehearted attention to this mandate over the next six months.

Second, The Hague has given a political impetus to the task of completing the internal market. The clear message to Ministers is to get on with it - that is to get on with creating by 1992 a single European market of the kind enjoyed by the USA and Japan - but in our case an internal market as large as the USA and Japan put together. That in itself has great potential for jobs.

/Third,

Third, we have recognised the need to look at agricultural subsidies and protectionism in an international context and to include this very real problem in the new GATT round.

Finally, we discussed nuclear power and its future. After Chernobyl we know clearly where the Community is going, under the umbrella of the IAEA in Vienna, to reassure the public about this indispensable form of energy and to secure effective international collaboration on nuclear safety.

Let me now turn to South Africa.

Again we came to The Hague with a clear idea about how the Community should try to move things forward. The Presidency's conclusions reflect our practical approach.

First, they express our grave concern about what is happening in South Africa and our fervent wish to see an end to apartheid.

Then they express the Community's support for non-violent change - change in the context of a suspension of violence - and the need for dialogue to bring that about.

We are all agreed that to this end we want the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners and a lifting of the ban on the ANC and other political parties.

In the meantime, we are agreed that the Foreign Secretary, as the Presidency, should undertake a mission next month to South Africa to try to get talks going.

I am sure we all wish him well in his task. He will carry with him the hopes of millions who want to see change through dialogue in South Africa.

/While

While this is going on, the Community will consult with other industrial countries on measures which might be taken if regrettably there is no progress.

This, as I say, is a sensible outcome and my hope is that all concerned will respond to the Community's calculatedly restrained but constructive approach to this terrible problem.

CENTRAL AMERICA

ICJ Judgment: US v. Nicaragua

- Not yet seen text of Court's judgment. It will require careful study.
- Have invariably accepted judgments of Court in cases where British Government have been party.
- Not a party to this judgment. Obviously believe in importance of adhering to rules of international law.

Aid to Contras: House of Representatives Vote

- US right to be concerned about prospects for democracy in Central America. So would you if Nicaragua on your doorstep.
- That's why, with our European partners, we support the Contadora process. The aim must be negotiated settlement, stability and chance for democratic development for all countries in region.
- [If pressed.] Do not believe dispute can be settled by military means alone. Need for restraint on all sides.