

PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER OF CHINA'S VISIT: INTERVIEW

Three senior Chinese journalists have asked for an interview in early May, as a curtain raiser to Premier Zhao Ziyang's visit.

I know you feel that you are having to do too many interviews for foreign newspapers. It may be enough for the Chinese to interview the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. I have no wish to press you to do it.

But I know also the importance which you attach to the success of this visit. You may therefore be prepared to do the interview exceptionally. It could be held to half-an-hour, with questions submitted in advance.

Agree to a short joint interview with the three journalists?

*Yes not*

Or leave it to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary?

*C.D.P.*

CHARLES POWELL