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PRIME MINISTER

VISIT TO CENTRAL OFFICE

You are making a brief visit to Central Office tomorrow at 2 o'clock, to fulfill the pledge you made after the European Elections.

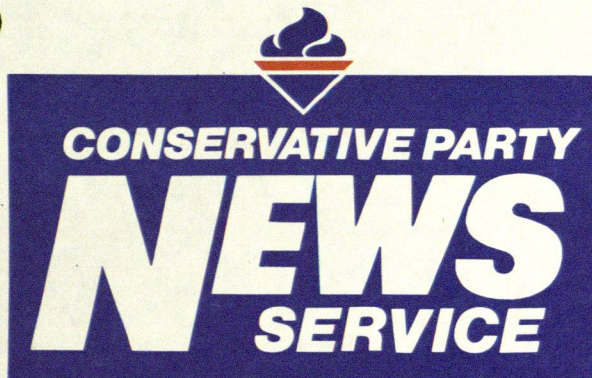
Because Central Office has now started its modernisation programme, it is not possible to assemble all of the staff into one room. For this reason, the Chairman proposes to hold two short but similar meetings of 20 minutes each. The first will be on the first floor and the second on the 3rd floor. The Chairman would like you to say a few brief words and then mingle with the staff. You are due to leave at 2.40pm.

I also attach a copy of the speech given by the Party Chairman at the Welsh Party Conference last Friday. This was a rallying call and contained some useful reflections on the European Election. It has one or two ideas which you might like to use in your own remarks.

JAW  
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JOHN WHITTINGDALE

27.6.89



Press & Public Relations  
Department.

Phone: 01-222-9000  
01-222-0151/4

Prime Minister

A very good rallying speech by Peter Brooke  
at the Welsh Conference.

*JTB*

Conservative Central  
Office.  
32 Smith Square,  
London SW1P 3HH

RT HON PETER BROOKE MP

Release Time: 1700 hrs Friday  
23 June 1989 60/89

Extract from a speech by The Rt Hon Peter Brooke MP (City of London and Westminster South), Chairman of the Conservative Party and Paymaster General, at the Conservative Party Welsh Conference at the Grand Pavillion, Porthcawl, on 23 June 1989.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

JUNE 15TH WAS THE ANNIVERSARY OF ONE OF THE DUKE OF  
WELLINGTON'S LESSER KNOWN BATTLES - QUATRE BRAS. AT IT HIS TROOPS  
WERE OBLIGED TO WITHDRAW. BUT HE RE-GROUPED. HE CHOSE HIS GROUND WITH CARE  
AND HE WENT ON TO THRASH NAPOLEON FURTHER UP THE ROAD AT WATERLOO, - AND  
WITH THE AID OF THOSE TWO GREAT WELSHMEN, SIR THOMAS PICTON AND THE 1ST  
MARQUESS OF ANGELESEY. I HOPE THAT'S NOT A CASE OF NEGATIVE CAMPAIGNING  
ON EUROPEAN ISSUES - BUT IT'S PRECISELY WHAT THIS PARTY NOW WILL DO.

MR CHAIRMAN, THESE LAST TWO YEARS WHICH I HAVE SERVED AS PARTY  
CHAIRMAN HAVE REINFORCED MY CONSCIOUSNESS OF TWO IMPORTANT FACTS.

THE FIRST IS THAT OUR PARTY CAN ONLY PROSPER WHEN UNITED.

/.. DEMONSTRATIONS

DEMONSTRATIONS OF DISUNITY ARE BAD FOR BUSINESS. AS PARTY CHAIRMAN I  
TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CAMPAIGN - ITS GOOD POINTS AND ITS BAD  
ONES.

BUT LOYALTY HAS OFTEN BEEN CALLED OUR PARTY'S SECRET WEAPON. MY  
MESSAGE TO MY COLLEAGUES IS TO DEMONSTRATE IT NOW.

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THIS IS THE START OF A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY  
IN WALES. THERE IS MUCH TO DO. WE NEED TO RECRUIT MORE PROFESSIONAL  
STAFF. WE MUST ENSURE THAT OUR CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS ARE STRONGER  
AND MORE OUTWARD LOOKING. WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER WITH THE SECRETARY  
OF STATE FOR WALES TO PUBLICISE THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING.  
THE CAMPAIGN TO WIN THE GENERAL ELECTION IN WALES STARTS NOW.

MR CHAIRMAN, LET ME SAY ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE EUROPEAN  
ELECTIONS. I HAVE SAID QUITE CLEARLY THAT THE RESULTS WERE  
DISAPPOINTING. THEY WILL DAMAGE BRITAIN BECAUSE THEY HAVE STRENGTHENED  
SOCIALISM IN EUROPE.

THEY ARE A SET-BACK - BUT NOT A SURPRISE. AND THEY ARE NOT  
QUITE THAT RINGING VICTORY FOR LABOUR WHICH MR KINNOCK CLAIMS. IF WE

/. . REGARD THEM

REGARD THEM RIGHTLY THEY CAN BECOME A FURTHER STEP TOWARDS ENSURING  
TORY GOVERNMENT IN THE 1990s AND BEYOND.

NO: THEY WERE NOT A SURPRISE. IT IS NEVER A SURPRISE WHEN  
GOVERNMENTS MID-TERM LOSE SUPPORT. JUST LOOK AT THE RESULTS ABROAD.  
IN ALMOST EVERY EUROPEAN COUNTRY THE GOVERNING PARTIES LOST SEATS TO  
THEIR OPPONENTS AT THESE ELECTIONS.

IT SHOULDN'T SURPRISE CONSERVATIVES EITHER. LET'S JUST  
REMEMBER 1981. THE ECONOMY LOOKED ROCKY. AND THE MEASURES TO PUT IT  
RIGHT, THOUGH TAKEN, HAD NOT YET WORKED. WE FELL IN THE OPINION POLLS  
TO MORE THAN 13 POINTS BEHIND THE LABOUR PARTY.

AT THE GENERAL ELECTION WE CRUSHED THEM WITH A MAJORITY OF  
144 SEATS.

AND REMEMBER 1985. WE PUT INTEREST RATES UP TO TACKLE  
INFLATION AND IT WORKED. BUT IT WASN'T POPULAR. AND THAT SUMMER WE  
WERE THIRD IN THE POLLS BEHIND THE 'ALLIANCE' PARTIES AND NO LESS THAN  
16 PERCENTAGE POINTS BEHIND THE LABOUR PARTY.

AT THE GENERAL ELECTION WE CRUSHED THEM WITH A MAJORITY OF  
101 SEATS.

/. . I HAVE

I HAVE BEEN LOOKING THROUGH THE PRESS CUTTINGS. THEY RECORD THE RESULTS OF THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS. AND THEY MAKE PRETTY DISMAL READING, I MUST ADMIT. THE SOBER PAGES OF THE FINANCIAL TIMES ARE HEADLINED: 'LABOUR CLAIMS GAINS POINT WAY BACK TO NUMBER TEN'. THE TELEGRAPH RECORDS: 'LABOUR GAINS IN EUROPE'. THE TIMES SAYS: 'LABOUR FORCES THE TORIES INTO A STEADY RETREAT'. THE GUARDIAN SAYS: 'LABOUR TAKES ITS EURO GAINS TO 15'.

BUT WAIT. 15 SEATS? NO: OF COURSE, I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE 1989 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS BUT THE 1984 EUROPEAN ELECTIONS. FOR ALL THE GLOOM AND DOOM IN 1984 AND ALL THAT LABOUR PARTY CROWING FROM ITS NEW LOOK LABOUR LEADER - ONE NEIL GORDON KINNOCK - THEY WERE NOT ON COURSE FOR NUMBER TEN BUT FOR ANOTHER THRASHING AT THE POLLS. AND THEY WILL REPEAT THE EXPERIENCE.

I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT AT THESE ELECTIONS SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS STAYED AT HOME OR CAST THEIR VOTES IN PROTEST FOR ANOTHER PARTY. INFLATION IS INDEED TOO HIGH. AND THE REMEDY - THE ONLY REMEDY - FOR IT, WHICH IS HIGHER INTEREST RATES, IS NEVER PALATABLE OR PLEASANT.

AT LEAST IT'S CHEERED UP MR KINNOCK. HITHERTO HE'S SPECIALISED

/.. IN SERVING

IN TERTING FUDGE IN PLACE OF POLICY. NOW YOU'LL HAVE SEEN HE'S DONED  
-IS ICE-CREAM SALESMAN'S SUIT TO BASK IN THE MEDIA COMPLIMENTS HE  
PREFERS TO MEDIA QUESTIONS. HIS PRINCIPLE-FREE POLICIES, PRODUCED AND  
PACKAGED DOWN IN WALWORTH ROAD, HAVE SURVIVED A LITTLE LONGER. BUT  
WHEN MR KINNOCK CALLS THE RESULT A BOOST FOR LABOUR OR A REFERENDUM  
ON THE GOVERNMENT HE MUST BE JOKING.

THE GRAND SUM OF 14½ PER CENT OF THE ELECTORATE HAVE VOTED  
FOR MR KINNOCK'S CANDIDATES AND 12½ PER CENT FOR OURS. MR KINNOCK'S  
KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONSTITUTION MAY BE AS SHAKY AS HIS GRASP OF ECONOMICS.  
BUT THE NEAREST THING IN BRITAIN TO A REFERENDUM OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS  
AND ON HIS LACK OF THEM, ON OUR LEADERSHIP AND HIS INCOMPETENCE, ON  
OUR POLICIES AND HIS EVASIONS, WILL BE IN TWO OR THREE YEARS' TIME.

THE FACT IS THAT THERE WERE TWO PROTEST PARTIES IN THIS ELECTION -  
LABOUR AND THE GREENS. THEY'VE MUCH IN COMMON. LABOUR'S STALE, RECYCLED  
POLICIES ARE - OR SHOULD BE - GREEN WITH MOULD. AND THE GREENS - THEIR  
POLICIES AND THEIR PERSONNEL - ARE AS RED AND RAW AS LABOUR'S TRUE  
INTENTIONS - AND HAVE INCIDENTALLY KEPT IMMODESTLY QUIET ABOUT THE FORESTS

/. . . THAT HAD

THAT HAD TO BE CUT DOWN TO DESCRIBE THEIR EPHEMERAL PHENOMENON.

DURING THESE ELECTIONS, LABOUR AND THE GREENS DRAGGED BRITAIN'S NAME THROUGH THE MUD ON ALMOST EVERY ISSUE, CLAIMING THAT CONTINENTAL EUROPE WAS BETTER THAN US - ALTHOUGH ON THE ENVIRONMENT, ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ON JOB CREATION WE ARE IN THE LEAD IN EUROPE.

BOTH LABOUR AND THE GREENS CAREFULLY KEPT THEIR OWN EXTREMIST POLICIES OUT OF SIGHT AND UNDER WRAPS.

AND NOT ONLY DO THEY SHARE THE SAME ELECTORAL TACTICS: THEY SHARE A HOST OF CRAZY LEFT-WING POLICIES TOO. THE IRONY IS THAT LABOUR WOULD IMPLEMENT THEM FAR MORE EFFECTIVELY AND MORE DISASTROUSLY EVEN THAN THE GREENS.

THE GREENS JUST TALK OF STOPPING ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR EVER: LABOUR'S POLICIES OF HIGH TAXES, HIGH SPENDING AND MORE TRADE UNION POWER WOULD KILL IT.

THE GREENS JUST TALK OF PENALISING THE PRIVATE MOTORIST AND CLOSING DOWN NUCLEAR POWER: LABOUR HAVE ALREADY WORKED OUT THEIR BLUE-PRINT FOR SHARPLY HIGHER PETROL TAXES AND ENFORCED DEPENDENCE ON MR SCARGILL'S COAL.

THE GREENS JUST TALK OF CURBS ON CONSUMERS' POWER TO CHOOSE;  
LABOUR WOULD LEAVE THE CUSTOMER AT THE MERCY OF THE STATE-RUN  
INDUSTRIES AND MILITANT UNION BOSSES.

THE GREENS JUST TALK OF BREAKING UP THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY;  
LABOUR HAVE A SET OF POLICIES ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY WHICH COULD BE  
ILLEGAL UNDER COMMUNITY LAW AND COULD LEAD A LABOUR BRITAIN TO BE BOOTED  
OUT OF EUROPE ALTOGETHER.

THE GREENS JUST TALK OF DESTROYING NATO, THOUGH WITH HIGH  
POLITICAL COURAGE THEY OMITTED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO IT DURING THE RECENT  
ELECTIONS; LABOUR'S POLICIES OF UNDERMINING NATO'S STRATEGY AND  
CRIPPLING OUR DETERRENT WOULD BRING IT ABOUT.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM IS THAT THE RANK AND FILE  
OF THE GREEN PARTY ARE SOCIALIST EXTREMISTS; AND THE RANK AND FILE OF  
THE LABOUR PARTY ARE EXTREME SOCIALISTS.

THERE IS, THOUGH, ONE REASON ABOVE ALL WHY I BELIEVE THESE  
EUROPEAN ELECTIONS CAN BE A STEPPING STONE TO VICTORY. IT IS THAT THEY  
SHOW A DECISIVE AND IRREVOCABLE RETURN TO TWO-PARTY POLITICS. IT'S BEEN

/.. HAPPENING



HAPPENING SINCE THE SO-CALLED 'ALLIANCE' PARTIES BROKE UP TO GO THEIR DIFFERENT WAYS. IT'S MEANT UNCERTAINTY AND TURBULENCE IN VOTING PATTERNS, AND THAT'S NOT BEEN GOOD FOR US ON THIS OCCASION, BUT IT HOLDS OUT HUGE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE - AND ONES WHICH WE WILL GRASP.

THIS TIME, ON A FRAUDULENT PROSPECTUS AND STILL IMMUNE FROM PROBING PUBLIC SCRUTINY, THE GREENS HAVE PROSPERED FROM IT. BUT, AS WE PRESS ON WITH POLICIES TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY STRONGER, CLEANER, SAFER AND TO PROTECT OUR CLIMATE, THE GREENS WILL FADE INTO OBLIVION WHEN PEOPLE SEE THEIR LEADERS FOR THE CRANKS AND CRACKPOTS WHICH THEY ARE.

AS FOR MR ASHDOWN HE HAS AT LEAST SECURED ONE TRIUMPH: HE NOW LEADS THE LEAST SUCCESSFUL PARTY IN BRITISH POLITICS. IT SEEMS THAT HE'S GOING THE WAY OF THE LAST CONTENDER FOR THAT PRIZE, DR. OWEN. FOR, LIKE THE DOCTOR, STRUCK OFF THE NATIONAL BALLOT PAPER BY THE ELECTORS, THE SMALLER MR ASHDOWN'S POLITICAL SUPPORT THE MORE GLOBAL AND FAR-REACHING APPEAR HIS AMBITIONS.

CONSERVATIVE POLICIES HAVE MADE BRITAIN THE MOST ATTRACTIVE SITE FOR INWARD INVESTMENT IN EUROPE - AND WALES THE MOST ATTRACTIVE

SITE IN BRITAIN. AMERICAN, JAPANESE AND GERMAN FIRMS ARE QUEUING TO JOIN IN THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION WE HAVE WROUGHT.

LABOUR POLICIES WOULD DRIVE AWAY FOREIGN INVESTMENT BECAUSE THEY WOULD LEAD TO HIGHER TAXES, HIGHER INFLATION, LOWER PRODUCTIVITY AND FAR MORE STRIKES.

CONSERVATIVE POLICIES HAVE TRANSFORMED BRITAIN'S PREVIOUSLY NATIONALISED INDUSTRIES FROM NATIONAL LAUGHING STOCKS INTO GENUINE NATIONAL ASSETS. SHARE OWNERSHIP HAS MORE THAN TRIPLED, AND THE INDUSTRIES THEMSELVES ARE MORE EFFICIENT AND PROFITABLE THAN EVER BEFORE.

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ON DEFENCE THE CHOICE REMAINS STARK AND UNAVOIDABLE.

OUR PARTY STANDS FOUR SQUARE BEHIND NATO STRATEGY AND BEHIND THE NEED FOR BRITAIN TO RETAIN ITS OWN NUCLEAR DETERRENT. OUR POLICIES HAVE BEEN VINDICATED BY OVER FORTY YEARS OF PEACE IN EUROPE, AND HAVE PRODUCED IN THE INF TREATY THE FIRST REAL BREAKTHROUGH IN NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT.

LABOUR ARE STILL DANGEROUSLY IRRESPONSIBLE ON DEFENCE. THEY ARE COMMITTED TO UNDERMINING NATO'S AGREED AND SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY -

/. . . ALTHOUGH NOT

ALTHOUGH NOT ONE SOCIALIST PARTY IN GOVERNMENT IN EUROPE AGREES WITH THEM, THEY ARE COMMITTED TO CRIPPLING OUR DETERRENT BY CANCELLING OUR FOURTH TRIDENT SUBMARINE - ALTHOUGH FOUR IS THE MINIMUM REQUIRED, AND THEY WANT TO NEGOTIATE AWAY OUR DETERRENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO REASON FOR THE RUSSIANS TO GIVE UP ANYTHING TO GET RID OF A NUCLEAR DETERRENT LABOUR WOULD NOT TEST AND WOULD NEVER USE.

THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WHERE MRS THATCHER STANDS, BUT NONE OF US KNOW WHERE MR KINNOCK STANDS - AND UNCERTAINTY IS THE WORST POSSIBLE HANDMAIDEN OF DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE. THE SAD, SAD THING IS THAT HIS AMBIGUITY IS NOT DETERMINED BY THE NOBLE IMPERATIVES OF UK DEFENCE POLICY BUT BY THE SORDID NECESSITY TO BEMUSE A LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE.

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST THERE IS A CHOICE OF LEADER.

MR KINNOCK CAN DISH OUT ABUSE - BUT HE CAN'T TAKE IT.

HE CAN QUESTION THE PRIME MINISTER'S PATRIOTISM - BUT HE CAN'T ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS POLICIES.

HE CAN THROW HIS WEIGHT AROUND IN INDIAN RESTAURANTS AND

/.. AFRICAN AIRPORTS

AFRICAN AIRPORTS - BUT HE HASN'T THE GUTS TO STAND UP FOR BRITAIN.

HE'LL PLAY IN PUBLIC THE REPENTANT SINNER ON HIS DEFENCE POLICIES  
WHEN THAT SUITS - BUT HIS HYPOCRISY IS EVIDENT FROM THE FACT THAT HE WON'T  
LEAVE CND.

HE'S MORE WILLING TO TALK DOWN THE POUND - BUT HE HASN'T A CLUE  
ABOUT BRINGING DOWN INFLATION. HIS MOST RECENT OFFERING IS NOT JUST  
INADEQUATE BUT UNINTELLIGIBLE.

INDEED HE DOESN'T EVEN THINK HE OUGHT TO HAVE AN ANSWER.  
QUESTIONED ABOUT MAJOR ECONOMIC ISSUES ON THE BBC MR KINNOCK HAS, IT SEEMS  
TWO STOCK ANSWERS. TO MR DIMBLEBY HE REPLIED IN THESE IMMORTAL WORDS  
(I QUOTE), 'WELL, EXACTLY. WELL, FINE. WELL, NOT AT ALL'.

TO MR NAUGHTIE HE EXPLODED THAT HE WOULD NOT GIVE (I QUOTE)  
'A BLOODY WEA LECTURE'. I THINK THAT MY FATHER, WHO HIMSELF WORKED  
SOME SIXTY YEARS AGO IN ADULT EDUCATION IN THE RHONNDA, MIGHT HAVE  
EXPECTED SOMETHING BETTER FROM HIS DIMMEST PUPIL, AND I WONDER IF  
MR KINNOCK CALLED THEM "BLOODY W.E.A. LECTURES" WHEN HE WAS A W.E.A.  
LECTURER HIMSELF.

/. . . ABOVE ALL

ABOVE ALL, MR KINNOCK IS STILL A LEFT-WING SOCIALIST. STILL  
A PRISONER OF THE UNIONS WHOSE POWER AND PRIVILEGES HE WOULD RESTORE. HE  
WAS RAISED IN THE LABOUR PARTY. HE HAS NEVER WORKED OUTSIDE THE LABOUR  
PARTY. HE IS THE CREATION OF ALL THAT IS DAMAGING, DANGEROUS AND OUT-DATED  
IN THE LABOUR PARTY. HE CANNOT, AND WILL NOT CHANGE.

HE'S NOT LOST HIS BELIEF IN SOCIALISM: HE'S JUST LOST THE  
COURAGE TO DEFEND HIS BELIEF.

HE'S NOT A CONVICTION POLITICIAN, BUT A CONVENIENCE  
POLITICIAN; NOT A DESIGNER SOCIALIST, BUT A DESPERATION SOCIALIST; NO  
LONGER JUST A WIND-BAG, BUT THAT ESSENCE OF AMBITION, A WINDBAG SEEKING  
TO BE A WEATHER-COCK.

POLLS NOT PRINCIPLES DIRECT HIS ACTIONS. HE'D ALWAYS GO  
FOR PACKAGING NOT POLICY. AND IN OPPOSITION YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH IT.  
BUT NOT IN GOVERNMENT. FOR IT'S IN GOVERNMENT THAT CHARACTER IS  
TESTED AND THAT RESOLUTION IS REQUIRED.

SO, ON BEHALF OF THIS PARTY, I GIVE FAIR WARNING TO THE SOCIALISTS.

WE SHALL SHOW YOU UP FOR WHAT YOU ARE. WE SHALL POINT OUT  
YOUR TRUE INTENTIONS -- AND WE SHALL STAND BY OURS. WE SHALL DEFEND

OUR RECORD AND CONTINUE THE POLICIES WE KNOW TO BE RIGHT. WE SHALL  
MAKE YOU ANSWER THE QUESTIONS YOU'D PREFER TO DUCK. AND WE SHALL  
RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT YOU DAREN'T EVEN FACE.

AND WHEN IN 1991 OR 1992, IT IS TIME TO PRESENT THE BRITISH  
PEOPLE WITH THE CHOICE BETWEEN US - WE SHALL RELISH THE RESULT.

ENDS

ECO



### Conservative Central Office

32 Smith Square Westminster SW1P 3HH  
Tel. 01-222 9000 Telex 8814563

From the office of:  
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY  
The Rt. Hon. Peter Brooke MP

27 June 1989

*Dear John,*

We spoke yesterday about the Prime Minister's visit to Central Office tomorrow, Wednesday.

As you are aware, having embarked on the modernisation of 32 Smith Square, we no longer have the space available to accommodate everyone into one complete gathering.

If the Prime Minister is content, the Chairman proposes to hold two short, but similar, meetings at 2.00 p.m. and 2.20 p.m. respectively. The first would be held in the large open area on the first floor (next to the office in which we held the European Press Conference briefings) to encompass staff on the ground, first and second floors and the latter, in the Press Office area on the third floor, for staff on the third, fourth and fifth floors.

We will provide coffee so that the Prime Minister could say a few words and then mix briefly with staff as time allows. With the public transport difficulties I don't envisage either gathering being restrictively overcrowded.

The Prime Minister would then be free to leave Central Office at 2.40 p.m.

I realise that this will involve the Prime Minister in doing two more or less identical meetings but under the circumstances it seems the best alternative. Could you let me know if this is satisfactory?

*yours*  
*Duncan*  
Duncan Guy  
Private Secretary

John Whittingdale, Esq.,