

PRIME MINISTER

1. I attach a note which follows up on George Younger's talk with you. I would like to circulate it around the Private Office if you agree.
2. I am in touch with Sue Goodchild about your Christmas Eve Party to see if there is anyone else you should invite.
3. You also agreed during the meeting with George, that Amanda and I should see you in January, so that you give a strategic view of your Diary for next year.

M.B.

MB

MARK LENNOX-BOYD

15 December 1989

MR TURNBULL
MR POWELL
MR GRAY
MR MORRIS

MISS SLOCOCK
MRS PONSONBY
cc Mr Ingham
Mrs Goodchild

NOTE FOR THE PRIVATE OFFICE

The Prime Minister has approved this note for me to circulate.

At the meeting which Mr Younger had with the Prime Minister on Monday, it was agreed that some greater effort should be made to improve the Prime Minister's contact with Members of Parliament. The following points were specifically considered:

- 1 Time in the House. The Prime Minister agreed that she would spend between 3.30 pm and 5.00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the House. The Prime Minister would like to take to the House a list of the letters received that day from Members. During these periods she would be able to visit the tea room, spend more time listening to debate, and see colleagues in her room. It will obviously take a while for these slots to be worked into her Diary.
- 2 Official lunches and dinners at No 10. The Prime Minister agreed that a few more backbenchers with wives than in the past should be included in these functions and that I should liaise with private secretaries at an early stage in order to effect this.
- 3 Monday Lunches. More backbenchers and fewer Ministers will be invited to these lunches.

- 4 Chequers Lunches. I would ensure that all Members of the Government who have not yet visited Chequers should be invited to do so with their wives.

- 5 Visits to Constituencies. The Prime Minister agreed to do everything possible to increase even further her visits to constituencies.

- 6 More social life for the Government. There was much talk of the value of social contact between members of the Government, and Mr Younger made the point that social functions covering all Ministers and wives were highly desirable. There was an element of the impractical in the suggestion, bearing in mind the size of the Government and the cost, but I will discuss this further in the Private Office and report to the Prime Minister.

M.B

MARK LENNOX-BOYD

18 December 1989