

NEEDHAM - FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY

We raised the question with Private Office this morning whether we should give any publicity to Mr Needham's visit to see the Prime Minister this afternoon since, as I understand it, he could be very helpful.

We have since telephoned him to find out whether he would object to publicity. He is not keen but told Hugh Colver that he would lend himself to a publicity exercise if we felt it useful.

We have left it on the basis that we shall not draw attention to his visit to see the Prime Minister. However we could arrange for him to be interviewed after his meeting with the Prime Minister - either by a single journalist or by radio and television, depending on how the Prime Minister and Mr Needham feel.

Could I suggest that you raise with him at the beginning of the meeting whether he would like to give an interview to radio or television or, for example, to a PA Press Association reporter and let us know so that we can lay on the journalist or crew for when he leaves?

B INGHAM

15 April 1982