

PRIME MINISTER

A.J.C. 25/11

"TODAY" PROGRAMME

You were worried this morning about the contrast between the awful weather - gales, heavy rain - in the South of England and your weekend in Goa.

I don't think you should be too concerned, because I have portrayed Goa as a most untypical retreat, with more than 10 hours of substantive discussion. You will have been seen on TV visiting the British cemetery. And Press Office in London tell me that you have been getting very positive coverage on radio and tv for the weekend's work.

However, you might find the opportunity to express your concern for the victims of the gale damage; and to underline the extent to which Goa was a hard working weekend.

You will see from the attached note by Iain Murray (in your box last night) Brian Redhead will ask if you find this sort of gathering beneficial and informative.

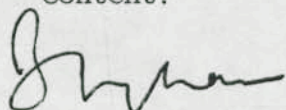
It may help you to know that over the weekend I have been making the point that these Commonwealth conferences give you an unrivalled opportunity to get over the British - and Western - point of view to a large slice of the non-aligned. It does them a great deal of good to hear it from the horse's mouth - and manifestly has great effect as the Goa Declaration shows. In short, these conferences are an opportunity too good to miss - and you don't miss an opportunity.

This brings in its train the question - yes, but what does Mrs Thatcher learn from others? Answer: their worries and concerns.

Two organisational points:

1. as the FCO are not here I must get a run-down from Sir Robert Armstrong of the morning's session in order to brief the press immediately afterwards. I do not believe Brian Redhead will let you down, cheeky chappy though he is. Iain Murray will therefore accompany you to the broadcast and back to the Residence;
2. Linda is getting a rundown of the news headlines before the broadcast.

Content?



B. INGHAM  
28 November 1983



"TODAY" INTERVIEW - MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER 1983

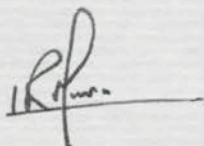
The interview will take place live at 12.35pm in the studio of India Radio which is in the Media Centre adjoining the Conference Hall - it will last 5 minutes. The Media Centre is a 2-3 minute walk from the Hall and either Mr Ingham or myself will be on hand to take you there.

Brian Redhead, the presenter, is totally flexible on timing and if necessary is prepared to interrupt the 7.00am news broadcast for the interview if you arrive earlier. Mr Redhead fully understands the timing problems and appreciates your need to hurry away to welcome your lunch guests.

He wants an informal chat rather than an interview with you and intends to put 4 questions along the following lines:

- have the Heads of Government had a fruitful morning in the Conference?
- is the Goa Declaration simply a sign that the Heads of Government have reached agreement amongst themselves or does it actually signal something to the outside world?
- the document "Towards a New Bretton Woods" is too important to be left on the shelf and the formulation of the Action Group recognises this. Will that Group bring an international monetary conference nearer to reality and have your own views on the need for such a conference altered during this Meeting?
- do you find this sort of gathering beneficial and informative?

Content?



IAIN MURRAY  
27 November 1983



"TODAY" INTERVIEW - MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER 1983

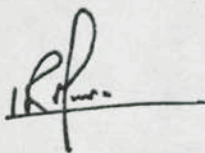
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- X - do you find this sort of gathering beneficial and informative?

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IAIN MURRAY  
27 November 1983

*Grenada & Cyprus final communique as with PM.*