

MR BUTLER

250th Anniversary - BBC TV Programme

You will shortly receive a request from Jennie Barraclough for a meeting with you alone. You may, therefore, wish to see the attached copy of my Note for File recording the salient points of the two meetings Jean Caines and I have had with Mrs Barraclough.

P.S. Joce
P S JOCE

6 March 1985

NOTE FOR THE FILE

cc Mr. Ingham
Miss Caines

250th ANNIVERSARY - BBC TV PROGRAMME

As agreed at the initial meeting on 18 February (my minute dated 18 February to Mr. Butler refers) Jean Caines and I showed Chistopher Jones and Jennie Barraclough certain areas of No. 10 on 20 February. In addition to the State Rooms we visited the following offices where the named staff gave a brief description of their work:

Private Secretaries' Offices

(Mr. Turnbull, Mr. Flesher and Mr. Barclay)

Appointments (Mr. Catford)

Garden Rooms (Miss Dover)

Honours (Mrs. Cole)

Policy Unit

(Mr. Warry - in the absence of Mr. Redwood and Mr. Owen)

Political Office (Mr. Sherbourne)

Peter Taylor was in attendance for most of the time.

On 6 March, at her request, Jennie Barraclough visited Jean Caines to discuss her future plans. I also attended. At the outset, Jean Caines reminded Mrs. Barraclough of the earlier decision that filmed interviews with staff would not be permitted. As previously, Mrs. Barraclough regretted this decision alleging it would make it difficult to produce a good programme. As work progressed and she gained the confidence of the staff, she hoped that the decision would be rescinded. I said I thought this would be most unlikely.

Mrs. Barraclough then asked for the names of those individuals she had met on 20 February (she had not made notes at the time). Having been given the names noted above, she expressed the wish to discuss with them their work. At this point Jean Caines commented that it was our understanding that the emphasis

of the programme should be on No. 10 rather than the staff who worked in it. In this context it is perhaps significant that although the format of the programme has still to be decided, Mrs. Barraclough's personal view is that there should be one long programme, with about a third of the time devoted to the past and two thirds to the present.

I suggested that it would be helpful if Mrs. Barraclough could give us a broad outline of the programme as she currently envisaged it, with particular reference to the time she proposed to allocate to the work of the sections. We would consider this outline to see if it accorded with the views of those who had laid down the original guidelines. It was essential that we all agreed the general format of the programme before any further work was done. At first Mrs. Barraclough agreed with this approach but later decided she would write to Mr. Butler asking for a meeting with him alone.

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6 March 1985