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Prime Minister
 You will wish to note
 these arrangements.

A.J.C. $\frac{11}{5}$ PRIME MINISTERDEMONSTRATIONS AT RAF UPPER HEYFORD

I mentioned to you in my minute of 12th May that I would be dealing separately with the presentational aspects of the two protests planned for Upper Heyford between now and the election.

2. The first of these, the "peace pentecost", is due to take place on 21st-23rd May, organised by Christian CND. As a counter to the activities at the Base the Bishop of Woolwich has agreed to make a speech over that weekend and John Selwyn Gummer is looking after the publicity for him. We are also attempting to persuade another Bishop - probably Norwich or London - to say something over the same weekend. Some of Lady Olga Maitland's Women for Defence will be taking part in the camp to try to put across the multilateralist point of view.

3. The CND blockade of Upper Heyford scheduled for 31st May to 3rd June looks like being a larger event and our candidate for Banbury, Tony Baldry, is working with Neil Marten to arrange some events, mainly in nearby Bicester, which will attract publicity for our case. They plan to take a local hall and organise discussions emphasising a more thoughtful approach to deterrence and disarmament. They are planning to mount a visual display on the importance of NATO and there may also be some posters linking the current CND campaign with the peace demonstrations of the 1930s.

4. I have myself been attempting to arrange for a major speech to be made at Bicester during the period and I am pleased to say that Alec Home has agreed to speak at lunchtime on June 3rd. If necessary I should be prepared to drop in at Bicester or Upper Heyford myself and Peter Blaker will be speaking in the area on June 3rd. Baldry has also



made arrangements for the Upper Heyford local councillor to be available to appear on TV with a number of other local residents, all of whom can be relied on to speak out clearly and critically about the peace campers living on the edge of the Base.

5. The only other significant incident we expect between now and the election is the International Women's Day for Disarmament currently planned for 24th May. CND will be attempting to arrange a number of events around the country involving blockades, "die-ins" and other types of civil action. Our enquiries so far with local police forces indicate however that these are likely to be on a relatively small scale.

6. I am copying this to Cecil Parkinson to see if he wishes to use any of our forthcoming press conferences to invite along some women candidates, such as Virginia Bottomley, to make it clear that CND and Labour do not have a monopoly of concern about maintaining peace.

7. I am sending copies to Francis Pym, Willie Whitelaw and John Selwyn Gummer.

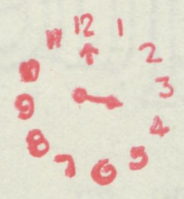
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20 May 1983

DEMONSTRATIONS AT RAF UPPER HEYFORD

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Secretary of State's minute of 18 May about the presentational aspects of the protests planned for Upper Heyford. She has noted this without comment.

W. F. S. RICKETT

Nick Evans, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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