

## 10 DOWNING STREET

1. Mr. Flesher
2. Mr. Davier-Jones
For Rection procedure
book

From the Press Secretary

20 May 1983

Der Tong,

I was approached yesterday by John Ledlie, MOD, to say that he had heard that arrangements were being made for the Prime Minister to hold a press conference in Deal on Ministry of Defence property. He hoped that this was not so since it was contrary to well established practice.

I have double checked this with Robin Butler and find that this is indeed so. The issue has arisen in previous elections and there is no doubt from the record that the advice is that MOD property, like other Government property, should be given a wide berth for electioneering purposes.

BERNARD INGHAM

cc Robin Butler

David Wolfson
Derek Howe
Neville Taylor, MOD