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PRIME MINISTER

VAT ON NEWSPAPERS

Conrad Black has been in touch with me to say that he, Rupert Murdoch, David Stevens and probably Lord Rothermere want to come and see you entirely privately to discuss the matter of VAT on newspapers. They want to come now, before the issue becomes too political. But they do not want to do anything to embarrass you and would do their utmost to keep the call secret.

I said that I would consult you and be in touch. The most convenient date for them would be on 12 November, when both Rupert Murdoch and Conrad Black are in this country.

I have spoken to Bernard and to David. Both agree that it would be hard not to see them, but David feels that you should have the Chancellor there.

Agree to see them?

CDP

CDP

22 October 1987

SLHAOD

I will do it

Don't NO MORE engagements

that week. It is just
before the Lord Ragsdale's banquet
speech me

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