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P.T. 61 - 125 - CS.

PRIME MINISTER

I was guest speaker on Friday night at the North East Publicity Association's dinner in the Civic Centre, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

After the dinner Mrs Russell, Chairman of the City Council's Information and Publicity Committee, asked me to convey to you her admiration and the plate enclosed.

Mrs Russell is a Labour member of the Council as is the Lord Mayor who is a London-Newcastle train guard. But what struck me was the warmth of their regard for you as an individual and Prime Minister - a warmth that was also strongly expressed across the political divide by the Lady Mayoress.

I have no doubt that this was a genuine expression of view. You may care to acknowledge the gift by signing the attached draft letter.

You may be interested to know that I got exceptional strong support from the assembled guests when I replied forcibly to pressure from Tyne Tees TV in questions I agreed to take after my speech about the Falklands coverage.

I was applauded when I said that the Government's objective was to win the war with the minimum loss of life and not run the operation for the benefit of the media. We could have done with fewer primadonnas among the media.

B. INGHAM

7 September 1982

Please relum 70 me.