

Mr Coles

PRIME MINISTER

FALKLANDS DINNER - MEDIA

This note records the arrangements made for handling the media for the Falklands dinner and reception on Monday.

As agreed: (see Annex I)

- journalists/photographers to be allowed to witness/record arrivals at No 10 from behind a barrier in the street;
- journalists/cameras not to be admitted to the pre-dinner drinks or subsequent reception;
- no journalists/cameramen to be admitted for the speeches at dinner.

Substantially as agreed:

- a small TV/still camera pool (BBC & ITN, 2 photographers, plus PA reporter for colour) to be allowed to film/report from behind a rope in the Blue Room your reception of guests before dinner;

Where we depart from the previously agreed suggestion is the placing of the media pool. We feel that it would be wrong to usher your guests into the Pillared (yellow) room when part of it will be taken up by the stand for the photograph. Therefore we propose that guests should be received by you as normal at the door of the Blue Room to the right of the top of the stairs with the media immediately in front of the window on the garden side so that they can take faces rather than backs of heads as guests enter the room.

The idea then is to usher guests away from the Pillared (yellow) room into the White Room and use the White and eventually the Blue room for the pre-dinner drinks.

Content?

- a group colour photograph of the guests to be taken by COI in the Pillared room immediately before dinner.

Guests will be arranged in 5 rows - first 2 rows seated, one with seats elevated; three rows standing of which 2 are elevated - in front of the windows overlooking the garden; the COI photographer will be stationed between the pillars; we have had a dummy run.

Guests will be informed in advance of their places and individual places will be identified.

The stands will be removed during dinner to allow maximum room for the subsequent reception,

- a COI colour photograph of the guests seated at dinner. With the horseshoe table arrangement he will have to take a number of shots in order to make a photographic record of all those present. I suggest you should at the appropriate moment - when all are seated - call for order to permit several photographs to be taken; it will be important to say that a number of shots will be required,

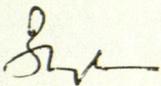
Outstanding points

The only unresolved issue is the release of speeches at dinner,

You came down against the recording or broadcast of the speeches by television/radio. Our normal practice in fact is not to release speeches made at dinners in No 10 and there is concern, on which John Coles can elaborate, about the effect of speeches on Latin American opinion.

Content therefore for me not to issue the speeches, but to feed out a summary line later in line with normal practice?

We could of course have the speeches recorded by COI for posterity if you so wished. Agree?



B. INGHAM

8 October 1982

I agree with points 1-4. On point 5 (release of the speech) we can decide this nearer the time when you have seen the speech. My inclination is against admitting television and radio to the dinner: it would make the occasion much more of an ordeal for Sir T. Lewis, if he replies, and risk turning the occasion into a media circus.

- 1. MR BUTLER
- 2. PRIME MINISTER

cc Miss Christopherson
Mr Kydd

should like to do a formal

FALKLANDS DINNER MEDIA

I should be inclined to have the media out once the guests have been received. FEB 4.10.

photo for dinner not

I would appreciate approval of the following proposals for the media aspects of the Falklands dinner on October 11:

First: Such journalists and photographers who wish to witness/record arrivals at No 10 will be allowed to do so from behind a barrier in the street. ✓

Second: A small tv/still camera pool (BBC/ITN/2 photographers) would be allowed to film the reception of guests before the dinner. I suggest that the Prime Minister should receive guests in the Blue Room and that guests should be directed left at the top of the stairs to enter the Blue Room through the ante-room to the Prime Minister's study; this arrangement worked well for President Reagan's lunch. The media pool would operate from behind a rope and would include a PA reporter to provide colour for the reportage. ✓

Third: Cameras and journalists would NOT be admitted to pre-dinner drinks or to the reception after dinner. Content? ✓

Fourth: Subject to this being feasible, the group photograph in colour would be taken in the pillared (yellow) room; this would take place immediately before dinner. Guests would be informed in advance their place on the stand and individual places on the stand would be labelled. The stand would be removed during dinner to allow maximum room for the subsequent reception. We would engage a COI photographer (as for official Cabinet pictures). ✓

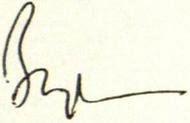
Fifth: Speeches during dinner would be released to the press, if possible in advance. I suggest the PM's only. Not the reply (if any - this is still being considered). It may not be ready in written form

Sixth: We need to decide whether to allow BBC/ITN/IRN on a pool basis to film the speeches at dinner for news bulletins. It is not normal No 10 practice to admit the media for speeches at luncheons/dinners. But this is not a normal occasion. It is in every

sense an historic occasion and one which, one hopes, will never be repeated. The Prime Minister may feel that the occasion should be recorded on film for posterity. If so, I would propose to limit the cameras to two, plus two recordists for BBC radio and IRN, to be admitted only for the speeches. On the other hand, the Prime Minister may feel that she should not overplay the Falklands and so provoke allegations that she is using it to court popularity.

I think it would be too late
No - T.V.

We need to get on with the arrangements immediately and I would be grateful for the Prime Minister's decisions before she leaves for Party Conference.



B. INGHAM

4 October 1982