

PRIME MINISTER

*Richard A. - would you please go through this interview - especially the Irish bit. not*

Your Interview with Associated Press

You have agreed to give a 45-minute on-the-record interview to Arthur Gavshon, AP's diplomatic correspondent for Europe, on Monday, 13 July at 5.30 p.m.

Arthur Gavshon, who is to retire later this year, has interviewed every British Prime Minister since Winston Churchill and just about every Foreign Secretary. You already know him from both on-the-record and off-the-record meetings you had with him as Leader of the Opposition.

The Opportunity

This interview offers an excellent opportunity to put over your views on major policy questions since extracts of it will be wired not only to the United States (where AP serves 1,350 newspapers and 5,000 television and radio stations) but in over 100 other countries (where AP has 7,000 newspaper and broadcasting subscribers).

Arthur Gavshon wishes to concentrate his questions in four main areas:-

- i. The Government's economic policies.
- ii. Social policy, particularly recent troubles in the inner cities of Britain.
- iii. Defence issues.
- iv. International issues, including the Ottawa Summit, North/South, TNF, US foreign policy and possibly Afghanistan and Poland, in the light of any developments between now and your interview.

I attach, at Annex A, a detailed outline of these areas, which will give you a feel of the thrust of Arthur Gavshon's questions.

/We



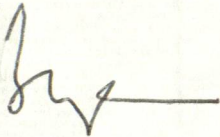




Mechanics

As a pre-condition for the interview, we have arranged with Arthur Gavshon that we will examine and agree on an authorised text of the transcript of your interview with him as soon as it is typed up before it is released to the press on the afternoon of Tuesday, 14 July for use in the American and other international media on Wednesday, 15 July. We will, therefore, be able to check any points that may concern you after the interview and before it is released. Incidentally, Mr. Gavshon would be grateful if you could keep your answers fairly brief as it will look much better on the wires.

We have told Mr. Gavshon that you would have no objection to him bringing a photographer for a couple of shots at the beginning of the interview.



B. INGHAM

10 July, 1981