

PRIME MINISTER

*I don't
want to.*

I am attaching a letter that I have received from Hector Laing. First of all, is there any reason why you can't go to Dumphail for New Year? You are due back on Wednesday, 2 January, for a dentist appointment, but this could easily be changed.

Regarding the dates that Sir Hector suggests when he might come to Chequers, lunch on Sunday the 9th is the only possibility as far as you are concerned, but I fear that Carol will not be back? All the weekday evenings are out except for 20 December, when you could have him to dinner up in the flat, but this is the day of the office Christmas Party, and Penny is doing the food for that. However, I assume that might be a possible date for Carol, though I don't know when she's expected?

*Perhaps when they
return for Dumphail
and I know Carol's plans.*

ES.

*I really don't want to put on
dinner here. The object was either*

30 October, 1979.

*Chequers over the James period -
in something for Carol to go out to
have a night
out.*