Where in this the deepest and longest world recession in the post war period, do we stand in Britain?

Yes - we have been to the I.M.F. but <u>not</u> like the last government as a nation <u>seeking</u> help but as a country <u>giving</u> help to others - a much more fitting role for Britain. From Socialist supplicant, to Conservative contributor.

The Exchange Rate?In spite of hostitities in the South Atlantic - the exchange rate <u>held</u> - a wonderful tribute to the prudent financial policies pursued by Geoffrey Howe.

The advice of world economic summits? We have followed it all - or it has followed us - because our policies are in line with those proposed by the most perceptive and knowledgeable commentators.

You are familiar:-

with the achievement on inflation. A steady downwardmovement. 8% now; forecast to be 6½% by the end of the year. Without controls, without distortions, without subsidies. This is a singular achievement which required guts when the going got rough and a steady nerve. And we must persevere until it is down much further. The rewards would be enormous.

- once again money would be a **Store** of value - from year to year, from earning to retirement.

77 the problems of index-linking and inflation proof pensions would be small compared with the vast freq charter the same when inflation is high - not to mention the unfairness as between these whose incomes are and those whose aren't, protected.

Cincy when it fans leather in that

with the falling budget deficit - a vexed problem which assails American budgets but which through the resolute approach, we have contained and reduced. the budget

P11

With the falling <u>interest rates</u> - (down again this week) and mortgage rates - a cheerful message to big and small business; to town and country alike. 5% down on interest rate will save industry f billion Lower (interest rates and lower inflation will ease prove the way for industrial recovery.:.

These things

Bin

They are a necessary precondition for future prosperity but they are not of themselves sufficient.

To pull out of recession, to gain a larger proportion of home and export markets, to compete with our industrial rivals, and 1torphy to create more jobs, all this involves a (shared responsibility; shared between what governments and those in industry, can-do. Milla-stable, we shall at is flation till costs stop niging forbenten liani Wage costs are vital both in the private and public sector. Note, I do not say pay but wage costs. For too long we have talked about pay as if it were wholly separate from output. As if everyone was somehow entitled to have his standard of living provided regardless of what we could produce and sell. Such a notion is absurd as every self-employed person will house the remind-us but it was one of the damaging by-products of successive incomes policies, all of which broke down.

The result of disconnecting pay from productivity was that in this country we paid ourselves 90% more for the same output, while in Germany the figure was only 15% and in Japan pay and output were hand in hand.

So they got more orders than we did and we lost more jobs. than they did. Their gains in our home markets and export markets have meant a loss of $1\frac{1}{2}$ million jobs here in the last 12 years.

(Shared) Responsibility for loss of those jobs between governments who printed the extra money to pay the extra wages and workforce and management who demanded or conceded wage: increases. Not matched by output. Wage costs in the public service matter too, for they are Mar Ja charge on productive industry. Geoffrey Howe has already spoken of the 31% extra budgetted next year for this purpose. It doesn't come from governments it comes out of the pockets of those who don't work in the public service. It is worth commenting that in Germany the figure is 2% and Japan NIL.

seconder the the holes

This is the financial side - but no amount of efficiency will are give industrial analysis of the first of the the financial side - but no amount of efficiency will produce the jobs unless the product is attractive to the customer, and that lies in the <u>lap of management</u>. We have the most brilliant fundamental research in this country - I have spoken before of the number of Nobel prizes we have taken! We produce so many 'first' in industry - the first computer, calhode ray tube for TV, rada, jet engine, penecillin, brain scanner, nuclear power staion, products for cloning genes, carbon fibres. Then in the past someone else has followed them up and exploited them better than we have. But things are changing. The cooperation between Universities and industry grows apace. Science parks are springing up. Grants from the Department of Industry are used to attract private finance - <u>sharedresponsibility</u>, shared between government, inventor, managers, workforce.

It will require a tremendous and sustained effort substantially to reduce unemployment; an effort on the part of goverments, management workforce. Unemployment has increased throughout the industrial world to levels we hoped never to see again (If businesses were to survive, overmanning restrictive practices and slack working arrangements had to be tackled.

They have been - and, alas, unemployment has consequently increased.

L'The reasons are various

We are in a period when the population of working age (16-65) is increasing, because many more people are reaching school leaving age than are reaching retirement. Between 1977 and 1981 - the population of working age grew by nearly 750,000. And over the next four years the labour force may grow by a further 600,000. Even without a world recession we should have needed a lot more jobs to stop the unemployment numbers rising.

3 New technology - the use of the robot and numerically controlled machine tools leads to increased manufacturing output with fewer people. We cannot opt out of the technology, race and try to stand comfortably aside. If we were to do so, our costs would rise compared with our competitors and we should lose not just particular products but whole industries, with corresponding loss of jobs. And the competitive threat comes not only from Japan, Europe and the U.S. but increasingly from the newly developing countries, South Korea, Taiwan, which have learned the lesson and whose products are now skipping not just one technological generation but more. As one production engineer put it "The real threat in new technology is the threat of your worst enemies using it".

It will cause immediate employment problems in some jobs and sectors, but the consequence of the U.K. <u>failing</u> to apply the new technology to the maximum degree possible would be a progressive loss of international competitiveness leading to obsolete industries here.

But new technology brings long-term opportunities as new products are created that we could scarcely have imagined several years ago. The country that has made greatest studies in its use has been the most successful in maintaining high employment Indeed in 1981 the Japanese electronics industry produced some f9 billion of products - roughly equal in size to the car industry, and she has 90% of world capacity in video tape recorders. (Sony, South Wales moved into video recorders when they were making fewer TV sets. Result - jobs increased from 350 in 1976 to over 1,000)

What is the formula for success in this field. It is:-Use new technology to the full. 1)

new products the market wants.

Train for new skills - here it is ironic that in spite of unemployment we are short of people with the skills in computer work.

Spot and develop

Soon there will be great opportunities for the new automa ted office equipment. We have only 5% of the market now but we could wip 80%. New jobs can be created but we have to go after them.

Add to these things the effect of world recession and we understand the distressingly high figures.

And there is one other matter of which I am constantly reminded whenever I travel overseas in quest of business for Britain, and of new investment in Britain. Strikes, you have so many strikes, I am told. It if weren't for that, we'd order more and invest more. In vain do I explain that there are few strikes in the private sector Jit is Comparative militant industries in militant job prospects in other peoples jobs. That is a far ory from the Friendly and Provident societies started by the pione Dal 10 have a responsibly to 4 helie Upd. they

Norman Tebbit has told you of his imaginative training to the programme, especially for young people, which starts in September from next year. We want to reach the stage when school leavers will either have a job or training to go to, and unemployment will not other, be an option. The scheme will be a shared responsiblity

- government and industry and commerce striving to give our young people a good start, a sense of being involved and a habit of work.

Some of our companies have good stories to tell:-

- 1) I opened Castle Peak Power Station in Hong Kong last week. It is a tribute to British endeavour and British equipment. 4 years after work commenced the first unit was running - several months early. British We can do it.
- 2) Cable & Wireless. Winning order good results.
- 3) Retail Sales up etc

CONTINUE WITH OTHER NEWS

Continue with A.

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