

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

The Prime Minister saw Lord Harlech at 1030 who reported to her on his mission to Southern Africa and his consultations with countries in the area about Rhodesia. Lord Carrington was also present. The meeting lasted one hour. At 1130 the Prime Minister would be chairing a meeting of Ministers. Those attending were subsequently given to the Lobby, as follows:-

Prime Minister

Home Secretary
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Foreign Secretary
S/S for Employment
S/S for Defence

Lord President
Chancellor of the Duchy
of Lancaster
Chief Whip.

This afternoon the Prime Minister would be answering Questions and making a statement in the House on the outcome of the European Council in Strasbourg.

At 1715 the Prime Minister, accompanied by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would be leaving Heathrow South Side for Tokyo to attend the Economic Summit.

ANSWER OF SUBSTANCE

David Ennals to DHSS on Motability and VAT.

MPS' AND MINISTERS' PAY

There was no change of substance in the guidance we gave yesterday. When asked whether any decision could be taken on this issue in the Prime Minister's absence, we pointed out that the Home Secretary deputised for the Prime Minister whilst she was abroad and that consultations could take place, if necessary. Similarly, consultations on Government Business in the House through "the usual channels" continued to operate in the Prime Minister's absence abroad.