

PRIME MINISTER

RADIO NEW ZEALAND

I have been asked by the Director General of the Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand whether, towards the end of August, you would agree to give a half hour interview to Radio New Zealand's Community network. This covers 29 local radio stations and reaches two thirds of the population over 10. The material would also be made available to their national radio and tv networks.

They would like to interview you live down the telephone - so it could be done from Chequers - between 10.00 and 11.30pm our time for their morning audience. Alternatively you could record at a time to suit you.

Topics they would cover are:

- Falklands crisis;
- NZ/UK relationships, especially following the recent Falklands crisis;
- your domestic policies and the containment of inflation;
- your view of the future, domestically and globally, with some reference to "the Pacific basin".

I would not press this upon you were it not for the facts that New Zealand was our staunchest ally in the Falklands crisis and that you have done little or nothing for the New Zealand media.

You may feel it would be better if we suggested they interview you in the week beginning August 30 on your return from holiday. (I attach your diary for the latter half of August and the first half of September).

Agree in principle for the week beginning August 30?

*B. Ingham*

B. INGHAM

29 July 1982

*Yes - will record  
mt*

PRIME MINISTER

RADIO NEW ZEALAND

The Director General of Radio New Zealand has written to thank you for giving them a telephone interview.

He enclosed the attached LP record for you. I have thanked him on your behalf.

*IK*

IAN KYDD  
PRESS OFFICE

23 August 1982

Bernard o/r.

- ①. I have your record
- ②. The interview went OK except for some difficulties because of a bad line. What she said was fine. However she did not realise it was to be by telephone until she read my brief even though that was made clear in the initial minute to her. He does not want to do any more telephone interviews
- ③. RNZ edited the interview. IK 23/8.

PRIME MINISTER

YOUR INTERVIEW FOR RADIO NEW ZEALAND, 2.30pm, TUESDAY, 10 AUGUST.

The interview will be conducted over the telephone from New Zealand by Mr Leighton Smith. As it will be early Wednesday morning (New Zealand time) when he calls the interview will be recorded for broadcast later in the day.

It will be heard over Radio New Zealand Community Network on 29 local stations which reach two-thirds of the population over 10. It will also be made available to other national radio and television networks.

New Zealand was our staunchest ally during the Falklands crisis:

- Mr Muldoon issued a very positive statement on 3 April condemning Argentine action;
- on the same date they made a statement in the Security Council;
- they broke diplomatic relations with Argentina; banned Argentine airlines; banned imports and exports; banned sales of arms and military material; and suspended export guarantees for new transactions;
- loan of HMNZS Canterbury.

You were able to thank Mr Muldoon personally for his support when he visited London in May but this interview will be your first public opportunity to thank New Zealanders for their very robust support.

The outline of the interview as proposed by Radio New Zealand is attached at Annex A. The following briefing is also attached:

- Annex B - FCO brief on the Falklands crisis and on New Zealand general.
- Annex C - New Zealand fact sheet.
- Annex D - Telegram brief from our High Commission in Wellington.
- Annex E - Supplementary brief on New Zealand butter.
- Annex F - Western Samoan citizenship.
- Annex G - Antarctic development: effects of Falklands conflict.
- Annex H - New Zealand freeze on wages and prices.

*IK*  
IAN KYDD  
9 August 1982

INTERVIEW OUTLINE

1. Now that the Falklands crisis is over - was it worth it?
2. New Zealand was the first country to sever diplomatic relations with Argentina - did it achieve anything? *Yes*
3. Has the Falkland crisis helped relationships between Britain and New Zealand? *Yes - value of family of old Commonwealth*
4. In the 1979 European elections you said "There are mountains of butter and lakes of wine in the EEC, our natural trading partners." There has been some talk lately of Britain pulling out of the EEC - is that really a possibility? *Included when closures. Both part of the same family. No.*
5. New Zealand is about to embark on closer economic relations with Australia - is there anything we can learn from the EEC?
6. You have reduced inflation in Britain - how did you achieve it? *By reducing sound finance - no printing no loans - honest money.*
7. Your unemployment rate is very high by our standards - in fact, three times the New Zealand average. Do you need high unemployment to curb inflation?
8. Are you a Milton Friedman disciple? *Monetarist policy.*
9. Both yourself and the New Zealand Prime Minister have shown concern about our economic future. Do you see an up-turn or a down-turn with the economies of our respective countries?
10. Do you now have a new centre party in Britain - the Social Democrats? How has it affected the Conservative Party (the equivalent of our national party)?
11. You are known in New Zealand as "The Iron Lady of British politics" - how are you known privately?
12. You're one of the few powerful women in the world today - does feminism mean anything to you.
13. How would you describe your style of leadership? *Positive*
14. How would you describe yourself as a person? *Realist*
15. You have reached the top in British politics - what would you like for the future? *Step back for some time*

16. You are a wife, mother and politician - what are the difficulties?
17. Who are the world leaders you respect?
18. What do you do when you're not being Prime Minister?
20. Do you always want to be a politician?
21. We imagine politics as a dull and turgid affair. Can you tell us anything of the brighter side?

Europe. ———  
Hamburg. ———  
Tanks. ——— Russian are  
coming. ———  
Iron Lady. ———  
74. ———  
Forceful. ———  
Britain. ———