

MEETING IN MR INGHAM'S ROOM WITH MISS ELIZABETH SMITH, BBC

18 OCTOBER 1983

The phone-in will take place, live, at Broadcasting House. Arriving at approximately 16.00 hrs, the main entrance will be used by the Prime Minister, although this will mean a longish walk within the building to the studio. Any journalists/photographers present when the Prime Minister arrives will be kept back, although there will be a photo-call in the studio before the programme (perhaps with BBC TV and ITN, although the latter may be persuaded to take BBC footage). Following the programme a BBC photographer may wish to take some shots of the Prime Minister with the presenter/production team. Journalists wishing to listen to the programme will be able to do so within the building, but will not be in contact with the Prime Minister. A transcript will be made, direct and by tape.

During the programme only the Prime Minister, the presenter (Margaret Howard) and a girl assistant, who will be taking the names of questioners, will be in the studio proper. The programme will be in two parts; starting at 16.30 hrs part one will last until 17.00 hrs, then after a nine minute news break, there will be a further 21 minutes.

It is anticipated that some 12-15 questions will be put. Prospective questioners will telephone in their questions in advance and be called back during the programme. Questions favoured by the presenters will be those covering major issues of policy, although at least one concerning the Prime Minister's leisure interests etc can be expected. The producer would prefer Mrs Thatcher to adopt a conversational rather than a crisp style in dealing with questions, even if this means reducing the number of questions.



IAIN R MURRAY

19 October 1983



Iain  
This is  
the lot  
now.  
Charlotte.



10 DOWNING STREET

Chase  
Friday  
lunchtime

14 October 1983

BBC WORLD PHONE-IN

Dear Ivor,

The Prime Minister has agreed to take part in a live world-wide phone-in programme on the BBC External Services on 30 October. The BBC have already invited listeners to write in with their questions and they will choose a representative sample on the day and telephone the questioners. Response so far suggests a predictable range of international and domestic questions on which, for the most part, we hold (regularly updated) briefing material already. However there are one or two exceptions and I should be grateful if suitable briefing could be arranged by 25 October. I appreciate that some of the subjects listed below are not strictly yours, and any briefing will need to be cleared with other Departments, if not supplied by them for your approval:

- (a) relations with India, including reference to the impact of the recent Festival of India held in the UK;
- (b) proposed changes in electoral law to give certain expatriates the vote;
- (c) non-index linking of the DHSS pensions paid overseas;
- (d) entitlement of expatriates to make use of the National Health Service when in the UK;
- (e) Government policy towards the future of the BBC's External Services;
- (f) UK Immigration policy.

Other subjects may suggest themselves during the next week, and I will endeavour to give you as much advance warning of any further briefing required.

*Iain*

*Iain*

IAIN R MURRAY  
PRESS OFFICE

Ivor Roberts Esq