

FILE →

Amere  
Fire Summer

John Sumner  
26/10/84

Sumner

1. Roger Freeman. to do the budget.

(A) 2. vice-chairman (overseas): - Jim Spier. [to be on  
Select Comm<sup>tee</sup>]

3. " (London). - Geoffrey Finkley.

[ILEA] <sup>city</sup> / does not have a member. - KS + JSC

4. " (Cardiff): ~~David~~ Tom Ansel.

5. Winston Churchill:

6. Treasurer. - Sir Charles Johnson.

(A) 7. Premier Report: <sup>Th.</sup> 25 27 July 85.  
<sup>Th.</sup> 26 28 Sept 85

Barie Watson

26/10/84

cco

Prime Minister

YOUR MEETING WITH THE CHAIRMAN TOMORROW - FRIDAY -  
AT 9.00 A.M.

1. He wants to raise mainly the question of Vice Chairmen of the Party.
  - (i) He needs to appoint a new Vice Chairman for International Affairs to replace Lord Fanshawe. He still has in mind Jim Spicer. (The Chairman himself wants to be responsible for maintaining contact with MEPs directly).
  - (ii) With Michael Spicer now a Minister, he needs to appoint somebody responsible for the Budget.
  - (iii) With David Hunt now a Minister he needs a new Vice Chairman for Candidates and he is still thinking of Tom Arnold.

I have serious worries about the Chairman's concept of the role of Vice Chairmen. Previously the Executive jobs were done by Central Office Directors with Vice-Chairmen acting as "non-Executive Directors." I think John now wants his Vice Chairmen to act as a Board of Directors running the place. But of course they can only be part time because of their Parliamentary duties. The danger is therefore that you have Central Office run by

a Board of non-Executive Directors with the Central Office staff demoralised. We are already down this road, and it may be inevitable. But I wanted you to be aware of my personal reservations.

2. Conservative Research Department

The Chairman may not raise this, but you should be up-to-date on it. CRD know that Peter is going, but know that no Director has yet been appointed. Moral in CRD is very low.

The Chairman and Tom Arnold have decided to advertise the Directorship in the press as the Chairman suggested to you recently. There are one or two possible candidates who are now Special Advisers who could do the job very well, in my view. But these candidates are likely to be precluded by the Chairman's stipulation that nobody will be considered for the job unless they give a binding undertaking not to stand at the next Election. My worry is that at the end of the day the advert will produce no candidates; the Special Adviser candidates will not be eligible; and finally, they may have to reconsider the stipulation by which time there will be no takers - who wants to be thought at the bottom of the pile? - and what then?

Whatever happens, the principle of appointment is that the Chairman will recommend the name of a new Director to you for you to accept or veto. I am sure this is the right way to proceed. And both Michael Alison and I have been asked to sit on the Board selecting candidates which will help ensure that the recommendation which comes to you is the right one.

3. Gordon Reece

Gordon spoke to Caroline this morning and asked if he could attend the Media meetings at Number Ten. As you know, Tony Shrimpsley used to attend the larger Media meetings on Monday mornings, but you rightly confined the Friday morning meetings to a small Number Ten team. So we are talking simply about whether Gordon should come to the Monday meetings.

Caroline said "no", Her instinctive feeling being that there would be a personality clash with Bernard Ingham. I talked to Michael Alison about this who believes that Bernard is too important to have his nose put out of joint. I agree.

The compromise Michael suggested is that you might have a short regular meeting with Gordon, say once a fortnight. But even this might worry Bernard because both Bernard and Gordon deal with the same "constituency", the Lobby.

You may want to discuss this with the Chairman.



STEPHEN SHERBOURNE

25.10.84