

CONFIDENTIAL

From: JOHN HOLMES
Date: 1 November 1996

PRIME MINISTER

VISIT BY BRUTON

You have agreed to see Bruton on Monday 9 December, as part of Bruton's pre-European Council tour of capitals. You also agreed to give him a decent length of time, to enable Northern Ireland and Anglo-Irish issues to be covered too, but thought you should offer him a meal. ✓

You cannot easily offer him dinner, as you are committed to Tosca that evening, but it looks as if both he and you could manage lunch (you are down for a Commons colleagues lunch at the moment). It would probably be best to have talks followed by lunch, eg starting at 1100 - we would have to shift the President of Angola to the afternoon, but that looks do-able.

Current diary extract attached.

Content to offer Bruton talks at 1100 followed by (working) lunch?



JOHN HOLMES

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Monday 9 December

0900 Keep free

0930 Sir Robin Butler

1000 Parliamentary Business Managers

1030 Cabinet Committee Business

1115 Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary +JEH

1200-1230 ?President of Angola +EO

1300 Host lunch for colleagues (Commons) +JW

1500 Keep free for JEH

1730-1900 Keep free

? **TOSCA WITH MR AND MRS PETER GUMMER**

+MRS MAJOR, ROYAL OPERA HOUSE