

PRIME MINISTER - INTERVIEW - CZECH NEWSPAPER - PRAGUE - 16 SEP 90

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FROM JAMES LEE FOR COI RADIO TECHNICAL SERVICES

TRANSCRIPT OF INTERVIEW

GIVEN BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MRS. THATCHER,

IN PRAGUE,

ON SUNDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 1990

INTERVIEWER: ALEXANDER KRAMER ("LIDOVE NOVINY")

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INTERVIEWER:

Czechoslovakia is now in the process of constituting a functioning democratic society. We are sure to encounter a number of obstacles and risks on our way, therefore we are grateful to those who are willing to help us with their advice. What do you think are the main tasks lying ahead of us and which traps should we avoid?

PRIME MINISTER:

That is a very big question indeed, but Czechoslovakia has a history of knowing what freedom is like and it has a history of having had a successful industry, so you are starting from a better base than some other countries.

Let me say the most fundamental thing about liberty is that if you accept freedom and have fought for freedom, you must also accept responsibility. Having freedom means that you do not leave all the decisions to government but you make some at various levels of society and that whatever your work, you are prepared to work very hard and prepared to play your part in bringing about the kind of society you want.