

TABLE SILVER AT YOUR BANQUET IN PEKING

1. I have contacted the Ministry of Defence and have not yet had a reply.

*Phone them again.*

2. I have contacted Government Hospitality and they can supply the following.

Group 1

- (1) 4 rose bowls
- (2) 1 cigar box
- (3) 1 pair of pheasant birds

Group 2

- (1) 2 silver cups with covers: 1 18" high; 1 16" high.
- (2) 8 military figures:
  - 1 pair of Hussars
  - 4 various Coldstream Guards
  - 2 others from Battle of Waterloo:  
one officer; one soldier

Group 3

- (1) a 7-light silver candelabra
- (2) a 3-light silver candelabra
- (3) six 7-light silver gilt candelabra
- (4) six 5-light silver gilt candelabra

Group 4

- (1) 16 5-light silver plate candelabra
- (2) one 4-light silver plate candelabra
- (3) six 3-light silver plate candelabra

Government Hospitality could make all the above available but consider that the first group is rather "ordinary".

Brigadier Cowan thinks it would be helpful if you could perhaps have a look at all this silver before the end of the week.

Agree?

*Yes*

CS

THERE WILL BE 120 PEOPLE AT THE BANQUET - A HIGH TABLE OF ABOUT 20 AND EVERYBODY ELSE WILL BE AT ROUND TABLES OF 8 OR 10.

2 August 1982

Logre

1

PRIME MINISTER

Please file  
et.

SILVER FOR YOUR BANQUET IN PEKING

The Ministry of Defence have located some naval silver in Portsmouth. It is extremely valuable and they do not wish it to come to London unless it is crated. The crates have to be made.

What has been decided is that photographs should be taken of the items of silver with the size specified. If you like the photographs and agree to take the silver (rather than the Government Hospitality silver which you are seeing on Friday) then special crates will be made for the trip.

Not ideal arrangements but I hope they will meet with your approval?

et. Yes  
mt

4 August 1982

Note for the file

The PM wishes to take  
some of the silver in the  
large dining room on the  
trip. CS is aware of this.

~~Weg~~

5-8-82

MISS STEPHENS

Silver for China

When the Prime Minister went to Lancaster House on Friday, she decided to take the following to Japan and China:

- a) 12 silver gilt candlesticks: 6 large, 6 medium sized, together with enough "ivory" candles to provide one use;
- b) one large silver candlestick, together with enough candles to provide two uses;
- c) one silver rose bowl, about 18" in diameter; and
- d) a silver cigar box, about 1'9" by 1'.

Brigadier Cowan said that he would arrange for Garrards to pack these items, and would see if he could get them to do this for a minimal charge. The Prime Minister indicated that she might wish to use the silver candlestick, the rose bowl and the cigar box in Japan.

It might be worth confirming with the Embassy in Peking that there will in fact be only 12 tables, and we should tell them that we should prefer to have 12 tables.

CR

9 August 1982

- |       |  |              |
|-------|--|--------------|
| (1)   | SILVER MODEL OF GLOUCESTER TOWER<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. GLOUCESTER BY THE CITY OF<br>GLOUCESTER 1910                           | VALUE £3,630 |
| ✓(2)  | SILVER 2H CUP C/W LID<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. GANGES  | VALUE £1,600 |
| (3)   | SILVER STATUETTE OF SAILOR<br>EX MED FLEET COMPITITION TROPHY  | VALUE £3,810 |
| (4)   | FOREIGN SILVER 2H BOWL<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. HOWE BY THE OFFICERS FIRST BATTALION<br>THE QUEENS 1894                          | VALUE £2,000 |
| (5)   | A PAIR OF SILVER FRUIT DISHES<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. LONDON BY THE CITY OF LONDON 1906 (PAIR)                                  | VALUE £5,785 |
| ✓(6)  | SILVER STATUETTE DUKE OF WELLINGTON ON HORSE<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. IRON DUKE BY AURTHUR FORTH<br>DUKE OF WELLINGTON K.C. 1914 | VALUE £3,450 |
| (7)   | SILVER 2H BOWL<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. BULWARK BY CAPTAIN R.D. FRANKS R.N. 1961   | VALUE £3,070 |
| (8)   | SILVER 2H BOWL<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. DOLPNIN 1942   | VALUE £6,245 |
| (9)   | SILVER PLATED FRUIT DISH<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. BELTON BY MRS DALLMERE   | VALUE £200   |
| ✓(10) | SILVER 2H CUP C/W LID<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. VICTORY R.N.B. BY<br>VICE ADMIRAL A.K. WILSON. K.C.B. K.C.V.O. 1904               | VALUE £2,800 |
| (11)  | SILVER 2H CUP C/W LID<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. DURBAN BY MR T.B.F. DAVIS. 1926   | VALUE £2,755 |
| (12)  | SILVER COCKEREL C/W PLINTH<br>EX HOME FLEET COMPITITION TROPHY PRESENTED BY<br>LORD STRATCOMBE 1912                            | VALUE £2,200 |
| ✓(13) | SILVER 2H CUP C/W LID<br>PRESENTED TO H.M.S. BLEASDALE BY MEMBERS OF THE<br>BLEASDALE BEAGLES 1942                             | VALUE £1,115 |
| ✓(14) | SILVER 2H BOWL<br>EX MED FLEET COMPITITION TROPHY PRESENTED BY THE<br>OFFICERS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN FLEET 1898                 | VALUE £1,450 |

TOTAL VALUE £40,110



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 August, 1982

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO CHINA

As you know, the Prime Minister is planning to take some silver to Peking to be used at her banquet. You told me the other day you thought approximately 120 people would be invited and that there would be one top table and the rest of the guests would be accommodated on round tables of 8 or 10 each. It would be helpful if you could tell our Embassy in Peking not to exceed 12 tables in total as we will be bringing the requisite amount of silver.

At the moment we have on order from Government Hospitality:

- (a) 12 silver gilt candlesticks: 6 large, 6 medium sized, together with enough "ivory" candles to provide one use;
- (b) one large silver candlestick, together with enough candles to provide two uses;
- (c) one silver rose bowl, about 18" in diameter; and
- (d) a silver cigar box, about 1'9" by 1'.

In addition, the Navy are lending us a few items. These are all rather large and will either have to go on the top table or on a side table. The Prime Minister has it in mind to use the items being lent by the Navy in Japan as well as in Peking. They are described as follows:-

- (e) silver 2H Cup C/W lid;
- (f) silver statuette Duke of Wellington on horse;
- (g) silver 2H cup C/W lid;
- (h) silver 2H cup C/W lid; and
- (i) silver 2H bowl

/If

WJ

If the Ambassador has sufficient silver we will probably leave the crate on board the VC10.

Could you please let me know what the Embassy advise.

1  
B/E

CAROLINE STEPHENS

Miss M Fenwick,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office