

SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

The Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Nikolai Lunkov, called on the Prime Minister yesterday afternoon for a 30 minute discussion during which he handed over a message from President Brezhnev drawing the Prime Minister's attention to the main points in President Brezhnev's recent speech in East Berlin.

Further points for defensive use, if necessary:

The Soviet Ambassador requested the meeting on Monday morning.

Was there discussion of Mrs. Thatcher's speech to the Conservative Party Conference in Blackpool?

- No.

Did the Soviet Ambassador ask for the meeting in response to what Mrs. Thatcher said in Blackpool about the Russian military build-up?

- That is a matter for interpretation but Blackpool was not mentioned during the meeting yesterday.

Invitations to the Prime Minister to visit the Soviet Union

- This subject was not raised this time. ( You will recall that Mr. Kosygin renewed the Soviet Government's invitation to the Prime Minister to visit the USSR during the stop-over on 26 June in Moscow on the way to Tokyo).

BACKGROUND

Prime Minister's previous meetings with Mr. Lunkov -

23 May at No. 10, when Mr. Patolichev, Soviet Minister for Foreign Trade, called on the Prime Minister.

30 May, when the Prime Minister visited the Soviet Exhibition at Earls Court.