

MOSCOW STOPOVER

The Prime Minister will make a 90-minute refuelling stop at Moscow Airport this evening (if asked at what time: 2300-0030) on the way to Tokyo.

If asked whether any representatives of the Soviet Government will meet Mrs. Thatcher in Moscow, we can say that we understand Mr. Veniamin Dymshits, a member of the Politbureau, and Mr. Igor Zemskov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (who visited the UK recently), will be there. The meeting will take place at the airport.

CVA

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We have just heard (1715) that the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr. Alexei Kosygin, will be going out to see the Prime Minister at Moscow Airport when her plane stops there later this evening for refuelling.

I have told PA, Reuters, BBC, TTN and the Daily Telegraph, adding that the Prime Minister is looking forward to seeing Mr. Kosygin.

Background

It is worth recalling that the Prime Minister saw the Soviet Minister for Foreign Trade, Mr. Patolichev, on 23 May during his official visit to Britain. She also visited the Russian Exhibition at Earls Court on 30 May.

CVA