



Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Agree to receive  
Mr. Marjai for 45 minutes  
at 0930 on Tuesday, 8 March?

1 December, 1982

A.F.C. 11.

Joe John,

Yes mk

Visit by Mr Jozsef Marjai, Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister

Mr Marjai, a Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister, is visiting the UK next year as the guest of Lord Cockfield. March 7-11 have been suggested by the Department of Trade as possible dates.

Hungary is currently pursuing liberal economic reforms and has achieved the most market-orientated approach to economic management within the CMEA. Mr Marjai is the senior Hungarian Minister responsible for economic policy and is considered to be the driving force behind Hungary's efforts to become a full member of the international financial and trading communities. He is spoken of as a future Prime Minister, which is of some significance when the present Prime Minister is rumoured to suffer from ill-health.

Our policy is to differentiate in favour of those East European countries showing the greater independence of action. Mr Marjai's visit will serve to demonstrate our continuing interest in Hungary's original economic reform programme and to provide a fillip to our attempts to increase our share of the Hungarian market (in which we are particularly in competition with the French and Italians).

In view of his present position and possible future role, we believe that it would be particularly worthwhile if Mr Marjai could be received by the Prime Minister. He called on President Reagan and Chancellor Schmidt when visiting the USA and Bonn. If there is no possibility of a call on the Prime Minister between 7 and 11 March, we will see whether some adjustment could be made to the timing of Mr Marjai's visit. We are also recommending that Mr Marjai call on the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Yes

*[Handwritten signature]*

A J Coles Esq  
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(R B Bone)  
Private Secretary

Hungary: UK Relations 2/87

Foreign Office, London

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11 DEC 1987

Hungary

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bc: Caroline Stephens

2 December 1982

Visit by the Hungarian Deputy Prime  
Minister

Thank you for your letter of 1 December.  
The Prime Minister is willing to see Mr. Marjai  
and can do so at 0930 on Tuesday 8 March for  
45 minutes.

AJC

Roger Bone, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.