

Magyar Országos Levéltár (MOL) – Hungarian National Archive

KÜM TÜK 1983, IV. fej., ANGLIA, 29. doboz

6-132 005829/5 Unwin brit nagykövet látogatása– Visit of Unwin, British ambassador

Page 1

3870/MJ [handwritten]
6 [handwritten]

Ferenc Esztergályos
1087/Esz.
005829/5 [handwritten]
.
underlined] ”

Strictly confidential!
Created: in 6 copies
1., Comrade Várkonyi
2., János Nagy [his name is
3., Lajos Nagy ”
4., Szűcsné ”
5., London
6., Own [next to this

handwritten date which is circled with yellow marker pen: ”29 Nov. 1983”]

[On the page handwritten note: ”Cr. Esztergályos As the complement of the sent telegram it should be messaged to Cr. Bányai: he shall not initiate, he shall be passive concerning the question of date; he shall not be ”enthusiastic” about an early date as it is not excluded that we rather incline to postpone. [illegible signature] 11/30”]

MEMORANDUM

Topic: Visit of Unwin, British ambassador [*”topic” underlined by hand, the rest of the line is marked by yellow marker pen*]

Today for his request I accepted British ambassador Unwin, who was accompanied to the visit by Reid I. Secretary.

The ambassador concerning the question of Mrs Thatcher’s planned visit to Hungary told that he had no orders [*had not received orders*] to make a suggestion of a precise date. [*Except for ”ambassador” the whole sentence is marked with yellow pen*]. However, he wishes to enquire what are our ideas in connection with this [*”what are our ideas in connection with this” marked with yellow pen*]. As he knows, we are thinking of mid-February, and they plan to realise the visit by the end of March. Their idea is that the British prime minister would come on a Thursday in the evening hours, after the ordinary ”question time” held in the House of Commons, on Friday she would have a whole day for the programmes and she would depart on Saturday morning. They would like in case we would add to the programme a lecture – similar to the one that Schmidt held at the Academy of Sciences – what is more, if it is possible, to visit the chemical works [*vegyművek*] of Leninváros¹ in respect of Mrs Thatcher’s qualification in chemistry. He enquired whether in this case there would be opportunity to travel by helicopter, what is more, whether it would

¹ Today’s Dunaújváros.

not be a problem for us in case her husband accompanied her to her journey. He showed a plan of programme made by them, which includes the wishes of a full working day of the visit, including the visit of some kind of a small industrial workshop as well. Would it disturb us if they would later make a definite suggestion for the date? *[This last sentence is marked with yellow pen.]*

[handwritten: "2nd page 0."]

Page 2

[The same page as Page 1. Only note: "Back" then signatures: Cr. Golub 1/30, Ábriné 12/1, L Nagy 11/30. In the top right corner: "1813/t"]

Page 3

- 2-

In my answer I pointed out that for our prime minister's programme calendar of next year the plan of journeys and visits is still being in progress. Although it already seems that the programme of next year will be rather busy. We are now collecting date proposals for the setting of programmes, and the decision will take place only after this. It is too early for now for us to have any date proposal. I do not exclude the opportunity that they make a date proposal for the British prime minister's visit. I called his attention that according to our experiences only in case of a longer visit it would be possible for us to realise the programmes planned by them. In other *[original Hungarian "contrary"]* case the overloaded programme would threaten the essence and content of negotiations, just those which are the goals of this visit. I told strongly marked as my own opinion that at this level at least one and a half day is required, in order to be able to have substantive change of thoughts. The use of helicopter – referring to my earlier experiences – was excluded by me, referring to safety issues.

Moving on other topics I raised that we wish if Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry would accept to be the sponsor *[fővédnök]* of the Hungarian Economic week to be held next April in London. I mentioned that the Hungary-based consultation of my partner, Bullard, Deputy Under-Secretary of State might be due as well, which date would be useful to be set in knowledge of the prime ministerial visit's date.

Unwin in his reply stressed that he understood which was said by me in connection with Mrs Thatcher's visit, and he hopes that in the light of this – with adequate order – he may contact *[original Hungarian "search"]* me. He secured me of his understanding and support regarding sponsorship, he finds next year's autumn to be probable for Bullard's visit.

The visit lasted app. for 1 hour. According to my judgment its only goal was by raising dates to feel out whether we are willing to accept Mrs. Thatcher.

Budapest, 29 November 1983.

[Signature of Esztergályos]