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0080/11 Megjegyzések Mrs Thatcher személyiségéről, világtképéről és várható érdeklődéséről - Notes on Mrs. Thatcher's personality, ideology and possible interests

Notes on Mrs. Thatcher's personality, ideology and possible interests.

KÜM TŰK 6-13, 0080/11, 1984

Inside the cover: “Interesting compilation, if we had received it on time, we could have inserted it in the political image. Maybe it could be sent to Cr Lázár also subsequently. Signature of Ábriné, 1/20”

Under it: “1 copy in the doc. folder. Signature of Ábriné, 2/2”

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Embassy of the Hungarian People's Republic

35. Eaton Place.

London

S.W.1.

01-235-4048

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[on the top of the document handwritten note: “M + V. Ter. Dep.” Under it illegible word/signature]

2/szt *[handwritten]* / 1984.

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Subject: Notes on Mrs. Thatcher's personality,

Typed by: Gyuláné Braun

ideology and possible interests.

I introduce by attaching my “Notes” *[original Hungarian word: “remarks”]* on the main lines of Mrs. Thatcher's personality, ideology and interests. I believe it should mainly be used to confidentially brief our leaders who will meet the British Prime Minister.

/Dr. Rezső Bányász/

Ambassador

Dr Péter Várkonyi

Comrade Minister

Budapest

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Notes on Mrs. Thatcher's personality, ideology and possible interests

The now 58 year old /born on 13 October 1925/ Margaret Hilda Thatcher /maiden name: Roberts/ originally qualified as a chemical engineer, then acquired a degree in /tax/ law. Her studies dominantly determine her style: terse, straightforward, to the point, determined - sometimes aggressive, telling one off - rarely open to a compromise. She is often impatient and impolite with her political opponents.

At the same time as a conscious politician, she adapts in a remarkably swift manner to the environment in which she moves in. She knows what role to play in a given moment and what her audience wants to hear from her. She improvises statements easily.

With the help of her widespread experience, she tries to look into her interlocutor's mind. She doesn't fancy long, descriptive conversations, which she interrupts with questions and short interjections.

Her political ideal is Winston Churchill. A close colleague of her said that during the Falkland's War Mrs. Thatcher always asked what Churchill would have done in the same situation.

The neo-conservative ideology which she represents, has a few cornerstones which she has consistently stuck to since the beginning of her political career, and it has to be said most of the time she represents these brilliantly. /During her third year as an

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Oxford university student she was already the leader of the young Conservative alliance, then in 1975 - at the age of 50 - she became the leader of the Conservative Party./

I will only refer to the main points of these Thatcher fundamentals, the main part of which consists of the Conservative reaction to post-war Labour governments pursuit of the so-called welfare state:

1, The dominating influence of state and its institutions on its citizens affairs has to be cut back. The state has to serve its citizens, not rule them. /'to have the state as servant, not master'/. "Enlightened absolutism" has to be done away with, every bit as much as open tyranny;

2, Every citizen has the right to freely command their income and assets along with possessing a right to their own property;

3, The capitalist market economy will always have an advantage over the centralised, state led economy;

4, Private initiative, individual creativity, independence and individuality have to be nurtured and assisted in all walks of life. Exaggerated tutelage, too many social benefits and rights lead

to laziness, becoming too comfortable, a casual attitude and one depending on the support of others;

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5, A good government is like a good owner. He doesn't spend more than the realistically set taxes and other resources allow for;

6, The fight against inflation is in the interests of all layers of society, what's more it's an international interest;

7, Work well done deserves respect. /Mrs. Thatcher is known for her hard work/. The right to work can only be secondary to improving the British industry's productivity. To reach this goal the trade union's "exaggerated" rights need to be cut back.

8, Politician's and statesmen's individuality, responsibility, determination and honesty are very important both on a domestic and international level.

It has to be mentioned on a general level that Mrs. Thatcher's knowledge on socialism, the political and economic practice of socialist countries is very vague. Because of this - in my opinion - stating a few of our basic principles which are natural for us along with the corresponding lawful assurances could invoke interest in her.

For instance:

- Our view is that the state and the party does not rule, but serves the people;

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- Instead of exaggerated tutelage - we are striving for real social care;

- Income through work can be used freely: right of every citizen to their own home, flat, holiday home, including the right of inheritance;

- The right to a holiday, a trip abroad etc.

- Assurance of laws.

Mrs. Thatcher is obviously very keen to know more about the current state of Hungarian economic and political reforms and our future plans.

Especially:

- planned economy - market economy;

- corporate independence - export - the development of productivity in international terms;

- private sector, small firms, individual initiations;

- Parliament and lower level democratic institutions;

What are our expectations of multi-candidates

- how can the echoes of “non-official” views be heard in Hungary?

- how “free” is the media and cultural life?

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Due to her interests - out of the general international issues of international politics - she will probably raise the following:

1, How do we see, how well do we know the current Soviet leadership’s domestic and international plans, how stable is their leadership?

2, Do we see a possibility of improvement in Soviet-US relations?

3, How do we see Poland unfolding, what are her possibilities?

4, Do we accept that differences exist between the socialist countries and how do we rate them?

[illegible initial as signature, most probably that of Bányász - translator]