



Bre
also

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

19 October 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 5 September about Takatori's "Margaret Thatcher" rose. She does indeed recall with pleasure having agreed to Takatori naming a rose after her and their having kindly placed a selection of the new blooms in her room during the Tokyo Summit meeting.

The "Daily Yomiuri" report of 1 September enclosed with your letter is substantially correct. The Prime Minister had agreed earlier this year to accept a request from the German Central Horticultural Association to lend her name to a new variety of rose to mark the participation of the Federal Republic of Germany in the International Garden Festival in Liverpool. The ceremony took place at Downing Street on 30 August.

Since receiving your letter we have spoken to the West German firm, W. Kordes Soehne, which had claimed to have developed the rose in question. Kordes are emphatic that it is an entirely different variety to Takatori's "Margaret Thatcher" rose. (The attached description of the rose supplied by Kordes is indeed different to the "Margaret Thatcher" rose described in Takatori's literature enclosed with your letter). Kordes say that their rose was registered in the FRG under the varietal name of "Korflueg" some years ago and was registered in that name with the Plant Varieties Registration Office in Cambridge in October 1980. We understand that they now intend to market it in the UK under the commercial name of "Margaret Thatcher".

Kordes recall the correspondence with Takatori earlier this year about their "Margaret Thatcher" and "TAKsun" roses. But they inform us that both varieties which were received as "budding eyes" in summer last year died without blooming.

WKC

I very much hope that what Kordes has told us will clarify the position, and that you will feel able to reassure Takatori that the rose referred to in the Daily Yomiuri report is not that registered by Takatori.

(C.D. POWELL)

Michael S.F. Gorman, Esq.



NOT C/F PPS?
GR PPS?

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 October, 1984

Dear Charles,

Margaret Thatcher Rose

Thank you for your letter of 26 September enclosing a letter to the Prime Minister from a Mr Gorman writing on behalf of the Japanese firm, Takatori Roses, claiming that it had developed the rose which the Prime Minister "christened" on 30 August.

As you suggested, we asked the Consulate-General in Hamburg to speak to the West German firm, W Kordes Soehne, which had claimed to have developed the rose in question. The firm have told us tht "their" rose is an entirely different variety to Takatori's. They claim that it had been registered under its "varietal" name ("Korflueg") with the Plant Varieties Rights Office (PVRO) in Cambridge in October 1980 - which we have confirmed is indeed the case. (The PRVO have no record of any Takatori rose being registered with them). The Kordes rose is marketed in different countries under different "commercial" names: and it is to be marketed in the UK under the commercial name "Margaret Thatcher". The PVRO (which is part of MAFF) inform us that under the terms of British plant breeders' rights legislation it is unnecessary for a foreign firm to register with the PVRO the "commercial" name as distinct from the "varietal" name. In practice, therefore, the commercial name is unprotected under this legislation. Kordes recall the correspondence with Takatori about the latter's "Margaret Thatcher" and "TAKsun" roses, but claim that the two varieties they received had dies before blooming.

It seems that the West German firm's behaviour has been technically above board. We have informally consulted the British Deputy Commissioner-General at the International Garden Festival, Mr Martin Slocock, an acknowledged horticultural expert, who confirms that Kordes' distinction between "varietal" and "commercial" names is valid and sees no reason to be critical of Kordes on commercial or legal grounds. Kordes have pointed out, moreover, that it was the German Central Horticultural Association which had originally proposed the idea that the Prime Minister should name one of their roses to mark the FRG's participation in the International Garden Festival at Liverpool. But it was disingenuous of Kordes to have gone along with this proposal in the knowledge that Takatori had already registered a "Margaret Thatcher" rose.



However, we do not believe that there is any action that we can now usefully take to remedy the situation. Given the possibility that Takatori might decide to take legal action against Kordes, our Legal Advisers recommend that you avoid any pronouncement on legal aspects in your reply. I attach a draft letter from you to Mr Gorman explaining the situation.

I am copying this letter to Ivor Llewelyn (MAFF).

Yours ever,
Peter Ricketts

(P R Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



SM

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

26 September 1984

MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

Roger Bone's letter of 4 April to John Coles conveyed the Foreign Secretary's recommendation that the Prime Minister should look with favour on a German proposal to christen a rose in her name.

The Prime Minister did so and a christening ceremony was held here on 30 August.

We have subsequently received the enclosed letter from a Mr. Gorman in Japan, writing on behalf of a Mr. Takatori. As you will see it reveals that the Prime Minister agreed, in November 1978 to allow Mr. Takatori to name a rose after her. We were not aware of this when the German proposal came forward and the Prime Minister had, I think, forgotten it. Mr. Takatori is apparently concerned to hear that there is a German rival to his Margaret Thatcher rose.

An enclosure to Mr. Gorman's letter shows that the German firm concerned have been in touch with Mr. Takatori and indeed seem to have developed their Margaret Thatcher rose from his, in which case there should be no real problem.

We need to be able to reply in a way which reassures Mr. Takatori. The best way would be to confirm to him that the German Margaret Thatcher rose is simply his original Margaret Thatcher rose grown in Europe. To be sure that this is the case and that there are no complications over registration, it would be best to check this with Mr. Kordes, the German grower. I should be grateful if this could be done through our Consulate-General in Hamburg. It would be helpful if it could be done quickly since a reply to Mr. Takatori is already overdue (it having taken some time to unearth the 1978 papers). Meanwhile I am acknowledging Mr. Gorman's letter.

(C.D. Powell)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

30e

h



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

26 September 1984

I am so sorry that you have not yet had any reply to your letter of 5 September to the Prime Minister which took some time to get here.

We are looking into the background to this and I hope to be able to write to you with a full reply quite soon.

(C.D. Powell)

Michael S.F. Gorman, Esq.

CF/GR Pol office
Recent pps pcc

580 HIRATA
KURASHIKI CITY,
OKAYAMA PREFECTURE.

11/9

JAPAN

September 5th 1984,

The Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher,
PRIME-MINISTER
NO 10 Downing Street.

Ria

LONDON

Re THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE.

Dear Prime Minister,

I am enclosing with this letter, a photo copy of a newspaper story which appeared in the Daily Yomiuri on September 1st 1984. In it you will note a spurious claim by a West German to the development of the Margaret Thatcher rose, and also your implied endorsement of his claim.

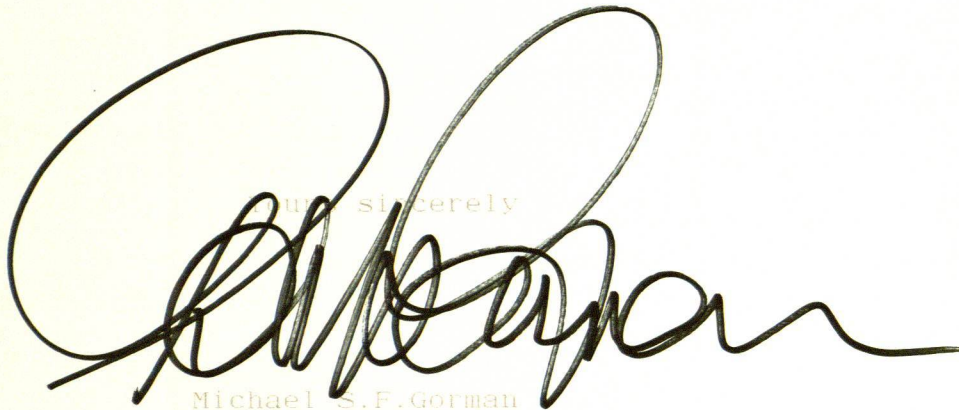
|| You may recall in the period immediately prior to your first election correspondence from the Information Department of the British Embassy in Tokyo, concerning a well known Japanese horticulturist's desire to name his newly developed rose after you. The first of these new roses were subsequently placed in your room during the Tokyo summit.

The rose which the West German claims to have developed is in fact registered by Takatori Roses and I enclose correspondence between Takatori and the West German which supports this.

|| You might be interested to learn that after the rose was originally developed, Mt Takitori, who has been a friend of mine for years, asked me for some suggestions for a suitable name. Being a fervent conservative, I could think of only one name which would be perfect - that is how it all started. You can imagine therefore how

surprised we were to read last Saturday's newspaper account.

Mr Takatori has asked me to write to you explaining his concern.
Any little thing you can do to straighten out the error would be
very greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Michael S.F. Gorman

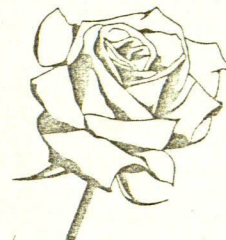
C.C Takatori Roses.

W. KORDES' Söhne

Die schönsten Rosen der Welt

W. Kordes' Söhne - 2206 Klein Offenseth-Sparrieshoop

Japan Rose Nursery
Takatori Roses
1078 Kataoka, Hazakawa Post Office
Okayama 709-12
Japan



2206 Klein Offenseth-Sparrieshoop
Telefon: 0 41 21/86 88
Telex: 2 18 392 koro d

Ihr Zeichen

Ihre Nachricht

Unsere Zeichen

WK

Datum

March 20, 1984

Ref.: your varieties Margret Thatcher und Tak-Sun

Dear Mr. Takatori,

we refer to your letter dated March 12, 1984 and would like to inform you that we have budded both varieties in the field last summer and will see them in bloom first time this summer about month of July. By end of August we can tell you whether the roses do well in our climate and whether we are going to build them up for marketing. We hope you can wait for our decision till then.

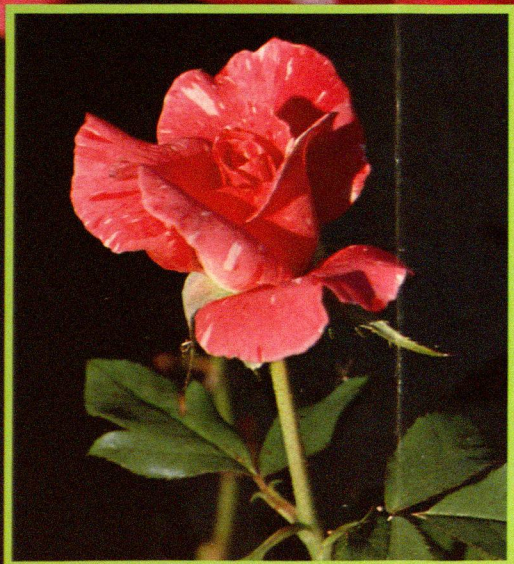
Kindest regards

Sincerely yours
W. Kordes' Söhne

*Margaret
Thatcher*®



Var. TAKsun



There is something extraordinary in TAKATORI ROSES.

A New Rose Called Margaret Thatcher

LONDON (AFP)—What has an elegant shape, is very aristocratic, very durable and robust? The answer is British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, or rather a new rose named after her which was unveiled in London Thursday.

Some 25 of the new rose bushes, developed by West German horticulturist Reime Kordes, are to be planted in the garden of the premier's residence at 10 Downing Street this autumn.

A further batch will be planted at Chequers, the prime minister's country residence, and Mrs. Thatcher will be able to keep one rose plant for herself.

Celebrating the unveiling of the new flower with a glass of champagne Thursday, Mrs. Thatcher said she had been a little worried at first when Kordes said he wanted to name the rose after her, because "I had to be certain you had a winner."

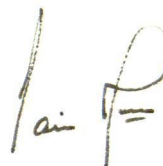
Daily Post 1/9/81

MR C POWELL

Looking at the photographs in the file, the two roses are quite different! Assuming - as we must - that Kordes is well aware of rose 'registration' procedures and, bearing in mind his letter of 20 March to Takatori, there must be the suspicion that he knowingly broke the rules. Incidentally, the Peterborough column writer spoke to Kordes who replied, when told there were two MT roses "That cannot be"!

Our reply should I think adopt a position of all innocence, it being a matter for them to resolve, not us. Any other sort of reply could perhaps lead to protracted correspondence, and maybe further press interest.

Draft attached.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Iain R Murray'. The signature is stylized, with a large 'I' and 'M'.

IAIN R MURRAY
PRESS OFFICE

24 September 1984

DRAFT REPLY

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 5 September.

Mrs Thatcher was naturally sorry to hear of Mr Takatori's concern. She does have very happy memories of the beautiful rose he so generously named after her, and which she saw in Tokyo. In agreeing to the proposal that the West German rose should be named after her we were quite unaware that there could be any complications, the offer being accepted entirely in the spirit in which it was intended.

The two roses are different in appearance, but if an error has been made, the Prime Minister very much hopes that it can be satisfactorily and easily resolved. We can understand your concern, and would like to assure Mr Takatori of our high regard for the masterpiece he named after Mrs Thatcher.

CHARLES POWELL

But I don't
think they are the
same!
D

Ian Murray

Unless you or FCO
have objections, I
propose to reply in
the terms of the
attached draft.

C.D.P. 20/9

Re: Margaret Thatcher Rose

Despite some of the nonsense which has been written in certain sections of the Press, I do not believe we are in an embarrassing position with regard to the naming of the Margaret Thatcher Rose.

I attach the complete file, and I would draw your attention to the latest letter, dated 5th Sept 1984, from Mr. Michael Gorman in Japan.

It is clear from Mr. Gorman's letter and his attached enclosures that the Kordes 'Margaret Thatcher' is the self-same flower as the Takatori 'Margaret Thatcher' (also known as Tak Sun).

It is common practice that a rose has the same name or a different name in different rose regions of the world.

I have drafted a reply (attached) which you might consider sending to Mr. Gorman with a copy for Mr. Takatori.

D.H.
DEREK HOWE

20.9.84

CHARLES POWELL

It might just be worth getting FCO to check with Kordes that the position is as set out in my draft.

D.H.

DEREK HOWE

20.9.84

Draft letter to Mr. Gorman.

Re: The Margaret Thatcher Rose

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 5th September.

She was naturally sorry to hear of Mr. Takatori's concern. I have carefully re-read the whole of the correspondence and I think some of the reports are based on a misunderstanding of rose breeding and production.

It is clear from the copy letter from W. Kordes Sohne of 20th March 1984 that the Takatori 'Margaret Thatcher' and the Kordes 'Margaret Thatcher' are the same rose.

As you will be aware roses developed in one part of the world are often grown in another part under agreement, sometimes under the same name and sometimes with a different name.

It would appear that what has happened in this case is that Kordes decided that the Takatori rose should also be called Margaret Thatcher in Europe.

I hope this explanation clears up any worries in the minds of you and Mr. Takatori.

With kind regards.



GUTSCHEIN Rosenpflanzen



The "Margaret Thatcher Rose"

Kordes' Rosen in aller Welt



GESCHENK IM AUFTRAGE VON:

Firma
W. Kordes' Söhne
D 2206 Sparrieshoop
Germany

25 rose-bushes of the
"Margaret Thatcher Rose"
to be delivered this autumn.

Sie erhalten die auf dem Bestellschein aufgeführten Rosenpflanzen
durch die Firma W. Kordes' Söhne,
2206 Klein Offenseth-Sparrieshoop,
zu dem von Ihnen gewünschten Termin.



THE RT. HON. MRS. MARGARET THATCHER, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

8th November 1978

Dear Mr Takatori

Mrs Thatcher has asked me to thank you for your kind letter of 2nd November. She is most grateful to you for your kind thought and honoured that you should like to name one of your new varieties after her. In the slides you sent us, the roses looked simply lovely and Mrs Thatcher particularly liked the pink one, Tak Sun, and would therefore like to select this one.

With many thanks again and with best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Tessa Jardine Paterson

Miss Tessa Jardine Paterson
Private Office
Leader of the Opposition

NAMING CEREMONY FOR THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE,
AT NO 10 DOWNING STREET, 30 AUGUST 1984:
SPEAKING NOTE FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

1. Deeply touched by the honour accorded by the German Horticultural Association, of giving my name to a new variety of rose. Not too sure about the political implications of the colour, but a blue rose would be too much to expect. Delighted however to note that according to the grower, Mr Kordes, the rose is robust, stands on strong stems, ^{will withstand all weathers} and is very long-lasting. The blooms are very beautiful, and I shall of course look forward to cultivating some of the roses myself.

2. Would like to take this opportunity to express thanks and appreciation for the major German contribution to the success of the International Garden Festival at Liverpool. The concept of the garden festival as a way of encouraging the rejuvenation of urban areas was a German innovation, much emulated in other countries. I believe the Liverpool Garden Festival is an outstanding example.

3. Germany was one of the first countries to decide to participate at Liverpool. I understand from experts that not only is the German garden splendid, but it is particularly interesting in terms of plant life, and has maintained a colourful display throughout the changing seasons of the Festival.

4. Wish every success for the special German exhibit in the Festival Hall at Liverpool from 1st to 12th September - also of course for the Margaret Thatcher rose.

PRIME MINISTER

Presentation of Margaret Thatcher Rose

I attach:

1. Speaking note (Flag A)
2. Description of the German Garden and list of foreign participants in the International Garden Festival (Flag B)
3. List of people attending (Flag C).
4. Media arrangements (Flag D).

Lady Aberconway is coming as she has been personally involved with the official activities at the Garden Festival, in particular giving hospitality to overseas VIPs.

Herr Werner, Commissioner General for the German Section, International Garden Festival, will make a short speech which you will then be expected to reply to.

CR

28 August 1984

THE GERMAN GARDEN AT THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL

The garden was sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with the Central Horticultural Association. It was designed by Bruno Leipacher with a "woodland" aspect, and includes a number of plant varieties which are little-known in the UK.

It contains eight different plant communities, and features a "natural" pool with aquatic plants. Other areas include trees and shrubs, and flower beds for perennials. Rhododendrons, ground cover roses, and heathers contribute to a colourful display throughout the festival.

A special German exhibition, including potted plants, bonsai, orchids etc, will be held in the Festival Hall from 1 to 12 September.

CITY OF COLOGNE GARDEN

The City of Cologne, which is twinned with Liverpool, has a separate "Cologne Corner" garden featuring the twin rivers of the Mersey and the Rhine, with benches built by apprentices from Liverpool and Cologne. The garden will be donated to the City of Liverpool at the conclusion of the Festival.

LIST OF INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE GARDEN FESTIVAL, LIVERPOOL

<u>Countries</u>	<u>States and City</u>
Belgium	Florida
West Germany	Cologne
Canada	Queensland
Italy	
Greece	
Denmark	
The Netherlands	
Japan	
USA	
Australia	
Israel	
Egypt	
China	
Singapore	
Austria	
India	
France	
Spain	
Barbados	
Thailand	
Sri Lanka	
Turkey	

ATTENDANCE AT THE NAMING CEREMONY FOR
THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE, NO. 10 DOWNING STREET,
30 AUGUST 1984

Representing the Federal Republic of Germany

Herr Jürgen von Alten
The FRG Chargé d'Affaires

Herr Bernd von Waldow
The FRG Press Counsellor

Herr Franz Josef Goldschmitt
The FRG Consul-General in Liverpool (formerly Counsellor at the Embassy)

(OR) Dr Hans Meyer Zu Drewer
The FRG Agricultural Counsellor

Herr Bernd Werner
Commissioner-General for the German Section, International Garden Festival

Herr Reimer Kordes
Grower of the Margaret Thatcher rose

Frau Ina Bimberg
German Central Horticultural Association

Representing the UK

Lord Aberconway *a Lady Aberconway*
Commissioner-General of the International Garden Festival

Mr Martin Slocock
Deputy Commissioner-General of the International Garden Festival

Mr Michael Gahagan
Assistant Chief Planner, Department of the Environment

Mr E R I Allan OBE
Director, Visual Media and Radio Group, Central Office of Information

Mr M J Llewellyn Smith
Head of Western European Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

D

PRIME MINISTER

The naming ceremony of the Margaret Thatcher Rose has attracted much press interest in West Germany and here. As there may be as many as fifteen press, including three or four television crews, the Pillared Room might be the most appropriate for the "christening" of the rose, with tea in the Blue Room afterwards.

Yes not

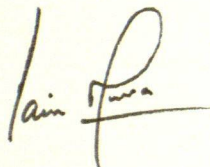
Content?

The West Germans are keen to use the occasion to highlight their participation in the Liverpool International Garden Festival, and have therefore requested rather more press coverage than is usual. In addition to the normal photographic and television coverage, they have asked if one writing journalist and a representative of West German Radio may be present to record the brief speech of Herr Werner, the German Commissioner General at the Festival, and your reply. If this is agreed, we ought to allow PA to cover the occasion too.

Agree to West German Radio, a German journalist and PA being present on the understanding that strictly no questions will be asked?

Following the naming ceremony the press will be withdrawn, although the West German Embassy have enquired whether it will be possible to permit one official photographer to be present while you take tea with the visitors. These photographs would not be for publication.

Content for an official photographer to be present during tea?

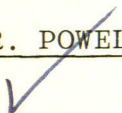


IAIN MURRAY
29 August 1984



10 DOWNING STREET

MR. POWELL



CR
Could you
please
CDR

The Margaret Thatcher Rose

Here is the file. Will you
do the meeting folder or
shall I?

A handwritten signature, likely 'CR', is written in the lower right quadrant of the page.

22 August 1984

file

da

PRIME MINISTER

cc Mrs. Goodchild

The Margaret Thatcher Rose

You are being presented with this rose on Thursday 30 August at 1500 hours. When I originally put the programme to you you expressed the wish that a proper Government Hospitality tea should be provided. As there are about 15 people coming and the presentation is due to start at 1500 and last approximately 30 minutes I wonder if the tea is necessary?

Would you still like a proper tea provided?

CR

22 August 1984



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 273 5351

*Caroline of
R/H to Thatcher
20 August
1984*

UNCLASSIFIED

T Fletcher Esq
No 10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Your reference

Our reference

Date 15 August 1984

Dear Fletcher,

THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

- / 1. Further to our telephone conversation, I enclose a draft speaking note which the Prime Minister may like to use at the rose-naming ceremony on 30 August.
- / 2. I also enclose, for background information, a description of the German garden and a list of the foreign participants in the International Garden Festival.
3. Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Powell

W B Powell
Information Department

cc: PS/Secretary of State

cc. Jay Murray



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 273 5351

UNCLASSIFIED

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Your reference

Our reference PB 126c/LIV

Date 8 August 1984

Dear Powell

THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

Caroline!
OK

Please refer to your correspondence with Roger Bone in the Secretary of State's office about the naming ceremony for the rose at No 10 on 30 August, at 1500 hours.

I have since been in touch with Ian Murray of your Press Office about arrangements for the ceremony, and attendance by the media. The Press Office suggested that I should contact you about official attendance from the German and the British sides, as changes are necessary to the list proposed in Bone's letter of 5 July.

The German Embassy have informed me that the Ambassador will be away on 30 August, but the Chargé d'Affaires would like to attend. They have also suggested that since German press representatives are expected to be present, their Press Counsellor would also like to attend. On the British side, Mr Delafons, the Deputy Secretary at the Department of the Environment, will be unable to participate, and we are therefore proposing that Mr Michael Gahagan, Assistant Chief Planner (Assistant Secretary), should represent the DOE. Mr Gahagan has personally been involved with the planning of, and DOE support for, the International Garden Festival at Liverpool. I attach a revised attendance list for your approval.

Lord Aberconway, the Commissioner-General for the Garden Festival (appointed by HMG) has asked whether it would be possible for Lady Aberconway to attend the rose-naming ceremony. We have not suggested that other spouses should attend, but Lady Aberconway is a special case in that she has personally been involved in Lord Aberconway's official activities at the Garden Festival, particularly with regard to the extensive programme of hospitality for VIPs from other countries. I would like to suggest that her role could be recognised by including her, exceptionally, in the guest list for the ceremony.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Powell

W B Powell
Information Department

Caroline
X
I have
told Bruce
Powell that
there is
OK
OK

Me. ECU

cc Press.

18 July 1984

THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

Roger Bone wrote to Charles Powell on 5 July regarding the above.

I now write to confirm that the Prime Minister is happy with all the arrangements for 30 August and has agreed the guest list as was suggested in Roger Bone's letter.

This correspondence has been forwarded to our Press Office who will be handling the publicity arrangements.

Mrs Caroline Ryder

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Co

PRIME MINISTER

THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

I am very sorry that last weekend we did not attach the letter from the Foreign Office. Could you now let us know if you are:

1. Content with the arrangements?

Yes

2. Content with the guest list?

Yes

Sounds a lovely
box
CR.
no

Caroline Ryder
16 July 1984



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 July 1984

GR's.

cc Press

John Coles

The Margaret Thatcher Rose

In his letter of 8 April, John Coles told me that the Prime Minister accepted the proposal of the German Central Horticultural Association (GCHA) to christen a new variety of rose in her name to mark German participation in the International Garden Festival, Liverpool.

The Germans have told us that they are delighted to accept the Prime Minister's offer for the ceremony of 1500 hours on 30 August at No 10. They have also put some suggestions to us on how the ceremony might run, and who on the German side might attend.

The GCHA have proposed that the Commissioner-General of the German section at the Garden Festival, Herr Bernd Werner, should make a brief speech; and present the Prime Minister with a bouquet of the "Margaret Thatcher" roses after the rose has been christened. We will ensure, if Herr Werner intends to deliver his speech in German, that you have an English text in advance. The Prime Minister may wish to say a few words about the German contribution to the International Garden Festival in reply. We will let you have a draft in good time.

GCHA have also proposed that Herr Werner might be accompanied by the grower of the rose, Herr Kordes, and a representative of the GCHA, Frau Bimberg. Although the GCHA have not themselves proposed them, the FRG Ambassador, Baron Ruediger von Wechmar, and the German Consul-General in Liverpool might also be invited.

As regards attendance on the British side, invitees might include the British Commissioner-General for the Festival, Lord Aberconway; his Deputy, Mr Martin Slocock, who has been an intermediary with the GCHA over the ceremony; and one representative each from the Department of the Environment, the Central Office of Information and the FCO, the Government bodies most closely involved with the International Garden Festival. I enclose a suggested guest list.

The GCHA have told us they are keen to attract press publicity for the ceremony.

/I

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



/ I enclose a photograph of the Margaret Thatcher rose,
and a background note on it and the firm which developed
it.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private
Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R B Bone', written in a cursive style.

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

Attendance at the naming ceremony for the Margaret
Thatcher Rose, No 10 Downing Street, 30 August 1984

Representing the Federal Republic of Germany:

The FRG Ambassador, Baron Ruediger von Wechmar

The FRG Consul-General in Liverpool,

Herr Bernd Werner, Commissioner-General for the German
Section, International Garden Festival

Herr Reimer Kordes, grower of the Margaret Thatcher rose

Frau Bimberg, German Central Horticultural Association

Representing the UK

Lord Aberconway, Commissioner-General of the International
Garden Festival


Mr Martin Slocock, Deputy Commissioner-General of the
International Garden Festival

Mr John Delafons, Deputy Secretary at the Department of
the Environment

Mr E R I Allan OBE, Director, Visual Media and Radio Group,
Central Office of Information

Mr M J Llewellyn Smith, Head of Western European Department,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

address to
be filled
in 7


The Margaret Thatcher Rose: The Grower

The rose was developed by the firm W Kordes' Söhne (Sons), which was established by Wilhelm Kordes in Elmshorn near Hamburg in 1887, as a nursery. The firm has been devoted entirely to the growing and sale of roses since the mid-1890's. In 1919 the nursery moved to Sparrieshoop near Elmshorn, where it remains, and the business began to concentrate its efforts on the development of new varieties, of which over 450 have been marketed.

The firm is at present run by the third generation, Reimer, Hermann and Werner Kordes, who divide the management functions between them. They employ about 170 people. Over 4 million rose plants are sold each year, of which 3 million are grown in their own nurseries, covering about 300 acres. Exports, mainly to Scandinavia, Switzerland and Italy, represent about 20 per cent of the business.



The Margaret Thatcher Rose

The grower's description of the rose is as follows:

Buds long, elegantly shaped. Blooms very fine, opening slowly. Standing on strong stems. Very long-lasting.

The colour is a pure pale pink. The blooms give off a light scent.

The plant grows luxuriantly, with dark green leathery foliage. Robust species.

Can equally well be cultivated under glass, for cutting, or in the garden.

Year of origin: 1975

PRIME MINISTER

THE MARGARET THATCHER ROSE

You will remember that you have agreed to accept the rose named after you from the German Central Horticultural Association. You will in fact be asked to "christen" this new variety of rose.

The ceremony is taking place here at Downing Street on Thursday 30 August at 1500 hours.

I attach a letter from the Foreign Office and would be grateful for your decision on the following: ?

- 1) Content with the arrangements?
- 2) Content with the guest list?
- 3) Should we offer them a cup of tea or a proper tea? ✓

CR.

Caroline Ryder

10 July 1984



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:


12 July 1984

Dear Uncle

I have seen Roger Bone's letter of 5 July to you about the Margaret Thatcher rose.

We would welcome the Prime Minister's association with the International Garden Festival. You may however want to check with Andrew Turnbull whether there is still any proposal for the Prime Minister to visit the Garden Festival later in the autumn. This had been suggested at one time. If this was likely you would want to consider whether any reference to this would be appropriate on 30 August. I am copying this letter to Andrew Turnbull, and Roger Bone.

Yours sincerely


JOHN BALLARD
Private Secretary

* Copy of David Barclay's letter of 1/6 to DOE, below.

CHARLES

GERMAN PROPOSAL TO NAME A ROSE IN
HONOUR OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Please see John Coles' letter to the FCO below. I have reminded them today that we are awaiting details for consideration.

I know that the event is almost two months' away but with the PM's holiday looming up in early August I thought you might like to be aware of this in case you wish to write to FCO at this stage.

Kay

2.7.84.

Kay.

Thank you. Lets give them
until 11 June to respond to
your reminder. Then I'll write.
Charles.



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 June 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE NORTH WEST

The Prime Minister was most grateful to your Secretary of State, and to the Secretary of State for Energy, for their advice on whether she should proceed with her proposed visit to the North West next month.

The Prime Minister has decided that on balance it would be better to postpone both parts of the visit. We have so informed the Merseyside Development Corporation as organisers of the Garden Festival, and British Nuclear Fuels Limited.

Although the Prime Minister's diary for the rest of the year is already quite full, we will keep under review the possibility of visits to Liverpool and to BNFL, since we are conscious that changed circumstances might make either or both highly desirable later this year.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Michael Reidy (Department of Energy).

(DAVID BARCLAY)

John Ballard, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.



file No

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9/8 April 1984

GERMAN PROPOSAL TO NAME A ROSE IN HONOUR OF THE PRIME
MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 4 April.

The Prime Minister accepts the proposal of the German Central Horticultural Association to christen a new variety of rose in her name.

She is prepared for the ceremony to take place at No. 10 Downing Street. She can offer 1500 hours on Thursday, 30 August. I should be grateful if you could let me have, in due course, the proposed details of the ceremony so that we can consider them here.

A.J. COLE

Roger Bone Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

This is G/R -
Liverpool Festival
on 2/4
with DB?



10 DOWNING STREET

Rev. Ingham

do you have a view?

A.S.C. 4/4.

Mr Coles

This "christening" of a rose after
someone famous is just famous stuff
and I see no objection to it.

There may of course be snide
comments on Rosey side that the PM
is prepared to accept this "honour"
from foreigners. But I don't see much
difficulty about that. This is more
likely to make space in the foreign
media than in ours who will no
doubt concentrate on the kind of
reception the PM gets on Rosey side

Ingham 5/4



10 DOWNING STREET

Caroline

Do you want me to give any
steer or tuning?

NO
u.

Thursday 30 August
15.00 No 6



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

4 April 1984

Prime Minister.

Agree proposal at X below
provided a suitable time can be
found?

found?

A.C. 5.

Yes m/s

Joe John,

German Proposal to Name a Rose in Honour of the Prime Minister

The Federal German Commissioner-General for the Liverpool International Garden Festival wrote in December to Lord Aberconway, the UK Commissioner-General to ask, on behalf of the German Central Horticultural Association, whether the Prime Minister would be prepared to "christen" a new variety of rose in her name at a ceremony in Liverpool during the weekend of 1/2 September.

Since we knew that the Prime Minister was to visit the Festival on 13 July, the German Horticultural Association were advised that it was most unlikely that she would be able to make a second visit on the dates proposed.

X | The German Central Horticultural Association have now written asking whether a "christening" ceremony could take place in London, if possible at the end of August. There has been no discussion of details with the Germans, but what they appear to have in mind is presenting the Prime Minister with a bouquet of roses at No 10 in the presence of photographers.

| The International Garden Festival, which is sponsored by the Department of the Environment, is intended to make a significant contribution to the re-development of Merseyside. With assistance from the FCO and our Posts overseas, the Merseyside Development Corporation have attracted participation from 26 countries, which is a major achievement and will do much to assure the success of the event. The Germans were one of the first countries to confirm their participation and have one of the largest gardens.

/Against this

CCPC
④



Against this background, Sir Geoffrey Howe suggests that the Prime Minister might consider favourably the German proposal to "christen" a rose in her name if she is free to do so at the time proposed.

*Yours
R B Bone*

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street