



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

10 December 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH MR. GORBACHEV

Since Mr. Thatcher will be present at Chequers on 16 December, the Prime Minister would wish to invite Mrs. Gorbachev also to attend the lunch. I should be grateful if the invitation could be conveyed to the Soviet Embassy.

As regards the handling of the meeting with Mr. Gorbachev, the Prime Minister envisages a generalised discussion before and during lunch. Her preference after lunch would be to withdraw with Mr. Gorbachev, plus one other Soviet official, Sir Geoffrey Howe and a notetaker on each side (plus of course two interpreters). I should be grateful if the Soviet Embassy could be put on notice that this is her intention.

As regards the meeting with academics on 14 December at 1700 hours, the time available is, unfortunately, very limited and I think we must make it as small a meeting as possible. Sir Geoffrey Howe is, of course, very welcome to attend but I do not propose to extend it beyond that.

(C.D. Powell)

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