



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 September 1982

Prime Minister

Agree to invite Mr. Suzuki to visit

London:

Dear John,

A. J. C. 9/9.

Yes - no date.

Prime Minister's Visit to the Far East

The Prime Minister has agreed with our recommendation that during her visit to China she should issue an invitation to the Chinese Premier, Zhao Ziyang, to visit the United Kingdom. We had not at that time recommended that she issue a similar invitation to Mr Suzuki in Japan, on the grounds that Mr Suzuki visited London only last year and that visits by Prime Ministers of the major Western powers may be regarded as sufficiently normal and frequent not to require specific invitations of this kind.

However when the Japanese Foreign Minister was in London on 3 September for consultations with Mr Pym, members of his party made it clear in the margins that the Japanese Government were hoping that Mrs Thatcher would convey an invitation to Mr Suzuki to visit the United Kingdom at an appropriate time. The Japanese would apparently notice the absence of such an invitation, which they regard as a normal courtesy even though no particular date may be contemplated. It would therefore be helpful if the Prime Minister were to speak accordingly to Mr Suzuki in the course of her conversations.

If this is agreed, we shall issue an addendum to the Steering Brief for the visit.

Yours ever

*J E Holmes*

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9 SEP 1982





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Prime Minister's visit to the Far East

Thank you for your letter of 9 September suggesting that during her visit to Japan the Prime Minister should invite Mr. Suzuki to visit the UK. The Prime Minister is prepared to issue this invitation though she will not wish to attach any date to it.

I should be grateful if, as you propose, you could issue an addendum to the steering brief covering this point.

B/F  
JOHN COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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