



Prime Minister
The options seem
to be:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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(i) attend the commemorative session on 24 October & not speak.
But it's a Thursday: and you will have been away since 16 October.

15 April, 1985

(ii) go to New York to speak on 23 October & fly home that evening.

(iii) go to New York to speak immediately before the CHOGM or on some other date in October. Agree to discuss with Foreign Secretary?

40th Anniversary of the UN

Yes no

CDP
16/6.

I last wrote to you on 18 February about arrangements to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the UN in New York this autumn, in the context of a letter to the Prime Minister from Charles Irving MP. You may like to be brought up to date on the arrangements for this commemoration as they are now envisaged in New York.

Early attempts, which we and our Community partners supported, to limit the commemoration to a short ceremony, with only a few speakers, failed because of the widespread desire amongst the non-aligned to allow Heads of Government to speak if they so wished. Intensive discussions in New York have now led to an agreed formula the essential points of which are;

- (a) All statements made by Head of State or Government and special envoys during the entire fortieth session in 1985 would be considered as part of the commemoration;
- (b) The general debate would be held as usual for a three-week period from 23 September to 11 October, on the clear and explicit understanding that statements made by Head of State or Government and special envoys during that period would also be considered as part of the commemoration;
- (c) Between the conclusion of the general debate and the commemorative ceremony to be held on 24 October, Heads of State or Government and special envoys may address the General Assembly in connection with the fortieth celebration;
- (d) The culmination of this period would be on 24 October with a solemn ceremony to hear statements by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly and to adopt a final declaration by consensus.

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The Foreign Secretary plans to attend the General Debate as usual in the week beginning 23 September addressing the General Assembly on Wednesday 25 September. The above formula leaves open the possibility of the Prime Minister attending the Assembly between 11-24 October and speaking if she wishes. The Foreign Secretary will wish to consider nearer the time whether to recommend that the Prime Minister should attend. The obvious option which remains open is that she might fly on to New York from Nassau after CHOGM which ends on 22 October, to attend the commemorative session itself on 24 October.

Discussion in the Preparatory Committee has focussed on the nature of commemorative activities at the General Assembly. The French Permanent Representative has also floated to Sir John Thomson the idea that the Security Council should also issue a Declaration to mark the 40th anniversary with the implication that the Council should meet at Heads of State or Government level to do this. There has however been no more formal French suggestion along these lines.

Y ever,
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