



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17 December 1979

Prime Minister: You would offer Dr Waldheim dinner on 20th May.

Paul 13/12/79

Agreed

Dear Michael,

Official Visit by the UN Secretary-General to London: 1980

The correspondence about Dr Waldheim's visit to London in July this year rests with Bryan Cartledge's letter of 13 July to Stephen Wall. This was originally to have been an official visit, but because of problems over the Prime Minister's timetable was later classed as a working visit, with the proviso that an official visit would be arranged at some future date. Cartledge reported the Prime Minister's approval to the suggestion that Dr Waldheim should be invited to pay an official visit to London in 1980 (his letter of 26 June).

From tentative enquiries it appears that the latter half of May would be the best period for the visit; I understand that the Prime Minister's diary is at present free for the week beginning 19 May.

Bearing in mind that Government Hospitality Fund regulations require an official visit to be not less than two nights' stay, Lord Carrington suggests the visit take place from Tuesday 20 - Thursday 22 May. (This is sufficiently clear of the holiday weekend at the end of that week).

The Secretary-General last paid an official visit to London in August 1977, as part of a round of visits to the permanent members of the Security Council marking his second term of office. On that occasion he was the guest of the then Prime Minister at dinner. Lord Carrington hopes that the Prime Minister would agree to host a lunch or dinner for Dr Waldheim (who is likely to be accompanied by his wife) on the forthcoming visit.

I should be grateful to know whether the proposed dates are acceptable. Lord Carrington will then instruct Sir A Parsons to confirm them with the Secretary-General.

We have suggested in briefing for the Prime Minister's visit to the UK this week that she might wish to confirm the invitation to Dr Waldheim, without necessarily specifying dates or other details; these would be worked out separately if time does not permit agreement among all concerned before the call on Dr Waldheim on 18 December.

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*Yours own
Paul*

(P Lever)
Private Secretary

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

21 December 1979

BF 18/4/80

OFFICIAL VISIT BY THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
TO LONDON: 1980

You wrote to me on 17 December on this subject. The Prime Minister would be prepared to offer Dr. Waldheim dinner here at No. 10 on Tuesday, 20 May.

No doubt you will be in touch with me nearer the time about any talks, and consequent briefing associated with the Secretary-General's visit. I should, in any case, be grateful to receive a guest list by close of play on Friday, 18 April.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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