

010 600
29

RESTRICTED

①



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

*It would be desirable
not to see her.*

29 March 1985

*Prime Minister
Would you
like to see
Mrs. Ferraro?
Yes no CDP
30/3*

Dear Charles,

*A statement
would be possible
over these days.
MKA.*

Request for a call on the Prime Minister by Mrs Geraldine Ferraro:
29 or 30 April

I enclose Washington telno 1069 concerning a visit to the UK by former Congresswoman and Vice-Presidential candidate Mrs Geraldine Ferraro.

The Embassy have been asked to explore whether it would be possible for Mr Ferraro to call on the Prime Minister on 29 or 30 April. The Ambassador's view is that this is entirely a matter for the Prime Minister's personal inclination. We agree.

Lady Young would be happy to see Mrs Ferraro if the Prime Minister does not wish to or is unable to do so.

*Yours ever,
Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

RESTRICTED

GPS 325
RESTRICTED
FROM WASHINGTON 262305Z MAR 85.
TO ROUTINE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1069 OF 26 MARCH
INFO SAVING C.G. NEW YORK.

RESTRICTED

TOP COPY

PROPOSED VISIT TO BRITAIN BY GERALDINE FERRARO.

1. FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN GERALDINE FERRARO WILL VISIT BRITAIN AT THE END OF APRIL AND IS LIKELY TO MAKE A SPEECH EITHER AT CHATHAM HOUSE OR AT THE OXFORD UNION ON 1 MAY. WE HAVE BEEN ASKED TO EXPLORE WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR HER TO CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER ON 29 OR 30 APRIL.

2. MRS FERRARO WAS OF COURSE THE FIRST WOMAN IN AMERICAN HISTORY TO RECEIVE THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION OF A MAJOR PARTY. SHE HAD TO RELINQUISH HER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SEAT IN ORDER TO FIGHT THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, AND AT PRESENT DOES NOT HOLD POLITICAL OFFICE. SHE HAS SINCE NOVEMBER BEEN WRITING A BOOK, BUT HAS ATTRACTED MORE ATTENTION FOR APPEARING (FOR A CONSIDERABLE FEE) IN A PEPSI COLA ADVERTISEMENT. HER POLITICAL FUTURE IS NOT CLEAR. HER FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO RE-ENTER PUBLIC LIFE WILL BE THE 1986 ELECTION FOR THE NEW YORK SENATE SEAT AT PRESENT OCCUPIED BY SENATOR D'AMATO. BUT THE INCUMBENT'S PRESENT STRENGTH MAY DETER A CHALLENGE. THEREAFTER SHE COULD SEEK TO ENTER THE PRESIDENTIAL OR VICE-PRESIDENTIAL STAKES IN 1988: THOUGH HER CHANCES WOULD PROBABLY BE FAIRLY LOW.

3. HER HUSBAND, JOHN ZACCARO, WILL NOT BE COMING TO LONDON WITH HER. ADVERSE PUBLICITY FOR HIS BUSINESS DEALINGS, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE TECHNICAL BREACH OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, HAS NOT HELPED HER POLITICALLY.

4. MY RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THIS IS ENTIRELY A MATTER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S PERSONAL INCLINATIONS. MRS FERRARO IS AN INTERESTING WOMAN AND THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT FIND A TALK INTERESTING IF SHE HAD THE TIME. THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD NOT MIND ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. MRS FERRARO HERSELF, WHILE OBVIOUSLY WISHING TO TALK SERIOUSLY WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, IS ALSO CONCERNED TO RAISE HER PROFILE WHILE OUT OF OFFICE. NO GREAT HARM WILL BE DONE TO THE BRITISH INTEREST IF THE PRIME MINISTER FINDS SHE CANNOT SEE HER: EQUALLY NO GREAT BENEFIT IF SHE CAN. IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS, IF THE PRIME MINISTER CANNOT SEE MRS FERRARO, IF LADY YOUNG COULD FIND TIME TO DO SO.

WRIGHT

LIMITED

NAD
PROTOCOLS
NEWS &
PS
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/MR RENTON
PS/PS
SIR WY ARBING
MR DAVID THOMAS

RESTRICTED