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United States Department of State



Washington, D. C. 20520

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JUL 13 1987

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM
S/SRELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

TO: The Secretary

FROM: EUR - Rozanne L. Ridgway *owh*SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Prime Minister Thatcher
July 17 at 9:15 a.m.I. ARMS CONTROL

- o The Prime Minister's major substantive interests during her visit will be the agenda for arms control negotiations and tactics for negotiating with the Soviets.
- o She will want to ensure that we adhere to the priorities agreed at Camp David and reaffirmed by the NAC in June.
- o She will also want to talk about handling Gorbachev and to ensure that a summit meeting in Washington includes human rights and regional issues as well as arms control.
- o At your meeting we believe she will focus on our most recent exchanges with the Soviets and our analysis of their apparent retreat from the forthcoming public positions they had taken on an INF agreement.
- o She will also be interested in our timetable for concluding an agreement and having it ratified in light of next year's election and the current Iran-Contra controversy with Congress.

II. DEALING WITH THE SOVIETS

- o Mrs. Thatcher will probably be most interested in talking with the President about her impressions of Gorbachev and her views on how best to deal with him.
- o She will still have very much in mind her triumphal march through the Soviet Union and the strong impact which it made on the Soviets as well as on her.
- o While recognizing Gorbachev's very different goals, she identifies with him as another reformer who is trying to bring change to a static society and economy.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 12 JUL 2012

DATE/CASE ID: 02 OCT 2009 200601579

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- o She believes that we all have an interest in working with Gorbachev to see that, consistent with our own interests, he and the more pragmatic people he has brought into the leadership are seen as successful in dealing with the West.

III. PERSIAN GULF

- o The British are themselves present in the Gulf and actively escorting ships; they have been publicly supportive of our actions there.

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- o She will be interested in hearing from the President and you about our plans for military action in the Gulf and our evaluation of Iranian and Iraqi reactions to Western military moves there.

- o On the Iran-Iraq war, the British have supported fully the drive for an UNSC cease-fire resolution and an arms control embargo against parties refusing to comply.

- o Mrs. Thatcher will be interested in our plans on the resolution and the results of General Walters' discussions with other members of the UNSC.

- o The Prime Minister suggested [redacted] that we consider getting the Iraqis to cut back on their attacks on Iranian tankers which provoke in turn Iranian attacks on Kuwaiti and other shipping. We have in fact gone to the Iraqis to suggest a Gulf shipping cease-fire /moratorium after the UNSC resolution is passed.

IV. SYRIA

- o Despite some miscues in timing, we have coordinated reasonably well with the British on our recent initiative with Syria, and Mrs. Thatcher accepts our reopening of a high-level dialogue with Asad.

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- o Having led the charge in Europe for sanctions against Syria after the Hindawi trial, the British will not be anxious to reverse their own actions or to restore relations.
- o They will want us to continue to consult about our plans and to avoid dramatic initiatives immediately before or after the visit.

V. MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

- o Mrs. Thatcher supports the initiative by Peres and King Hussein to convene a Middle East Peace Conference.
- o B1
- o She is scheduled to see King Hussein this week and will likely make a similar commitment.
- o She will be interested in our evaluation of the Soviets' interest in a conference and their willingness to play a constructive role with the PLO and the Syrians.

VI. SOUTHERN AFRICA

- o The next showdown for the British on South African sanctions will take place at the Commonwealth meeting in Vancouver in September.
- o B1
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- o Mrs. Thatcher has taken a personal interest in Mozambique, where she sees Chissano as an effective and congenial leader, and in Zimbabwe, to which she has offered to sell fighter aircraft.
- o Her public endorsement of support for Mozambique and Chissano during her visit here may be helpful to us.
- o In return she will be interested in clearer signals from Washington in support of working with Mozambique and agreement on the idea of economic support for the Frontline States.

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- o We do not believe Mrs. Thatcher intends to raise this issue during her visit, and we would prefer to defer a substantive discussion with the British until later when our own plans are better developed.
- o It could arise, however, given the recent Argentine proposal on the fisheries issue which we passed to the British and the press play on the U.S. mediation role.

VIII. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES

- o The major international economic issues were covered in detail in Venice.
- o During her meetings in Washington she will undoubtedly talk about the need to combat protectionism, opening Japanese markets, and the U.S. budget deficit.
- o The UK deserves praise as a leader in the successful fight in the EC to shelve the fats and oils tax.
- o Mrs. Thatcher may raise the almost-completed US-UK agreement on conditions for the export of supercomputers to the UK. Secretary Weinberger's objections are being reviewed by the NSC.

IX. JAMAICA

- o Mrs. Thatcher will visit Jamaica for one day after leaving Washington.
- o Prime Minister Seaga, who faces an uphill re-election campaign next year against Michael Manley, hopes that some of the Thatcher magic will rub off on him.
- o Years of austerity budgets and an IMF-dictated cap of 10% on wage increases have cost Seaga politically, and the economy is only slowly beginning to turn around.

X. SETTING

Mrs. Thatcher is scheduled to begin the day with live interviews with all of the morning talk shows. She will then have breakfast with the Vice President. After her meeting with you she will see Secretary Weinberger, have the meeting and lunch at the White House, receive Secretary Baker and Alan Greenspan at the residence, meet the Senate leadership at the Capitol, and tape a "Face the Nation" interview.

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XI. PARTICIPANTS

U.S.

UK

The Secretary
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Assistant Secretary Ridgway
EUR/NE Director Cooper
(notetaker)

Prime Minister Thatcher
Ambassador Acland
Private Secretary Powell

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