



United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

SECRETBRIEFING MEMORANDUM
S/S

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RELEASED IN FULL

TO: The Secretary

FROM: EUR - Rozanne L. Ridgway

SUBJECT: Scope Paper for Your Visit to London, December
15-16, 1987

I. WHERE DOES OUR RELATIONSHIP STAND?

- o An assured conservative government and Prime Minister are firmly in place in London, friendly and admiring but also critical at times and interested in asserting their own views and priorities.
- o Opponents of Britain's independent nuclear deterrent and the UK role as a leading military member of NATO were decisively defeated in June and are now in disarray.
- o Our views on most major foreign policy questions coincide, but Mrs. Thatcher puts a slightly different spin on arms control, dealing with Gorbachev, and the Middle East peace process.
- o More than most industrial countries, Mrs. Thatcher's UK shares our view of the desirability of free trade, the productive value of free enterprise, the need to bring Japan and other surplus trading countries into line, and agricultural reform. Mrs. Thatcher, however, has been critical of our budget and trade deficits.
- o Britain is becoming more and more a part of Europe-- institutionally, economically, and psychologically--but still maintains an independent view on Community issues and a willingness to assert those views in the face of a contrary EC consensus. The US/UK special relationship still exists.

II. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THIS VISIT?

- o Mrs. Thatcher's public reaffirmation of support for the INF treaty and our negotiating strategy with the Soviets following the Washington summit.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Robert Homme, Senior ReviewerSECRET
DECL: OADR

lot # 88D246, Box # 3
The Secretary's Trip to Europe Bonn
11 - 12 December 15-16, 1987

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- o British support for our 'approach' on managing German efforts to promote SNF negotiations.
- o Continued close coordination with the British on our Afghanistan policy.
- o Continued British support for our actions in the Persian Gulf and how we follow up on UNGA Res. 598.
- o Coordination of our public and private approaches toward an international conference on peace in the Middle East and on the role of the Soviet Union in that process.
- o Reaffirmation of U.S. position on proposed Moscow CSCE human rights conference, but leaving the door open to further consideration if Soviets meet our criteria on human rights and credible access/openness guarantees.

III. WHAT DO THE BRITISH WANT FROM THIS VISIT?

- o To hear your views on the Washington summit.
- o To discuss how we intend to approach arms control-- especially where START, CW and conventional arms control stand in the wake of the summit--and other East/West issues in our negotiations with the Soviets.
- o To compare notes on dealing with Gorbachev, particularly following the Washington summit and her meeting, and in advance of the Moscow summit.
- o To lobby the U.S. on the desirability of an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

IV. WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED FROM THIS VISIT?

- o Given the frequency of meetings and the closeness of our relations, both sides know what can be accomplished during the visit and have realistic expectations.
- o At minimum we will have a full and candid exchange of views with Mrs. Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey.
- o Mrs. Thatcher will give the President an enthusiastic endorsement for negotiating the INF agreement with the Soviets and for the successful summit meeting with Gorbachev.
- o We are unlikely to achieve complete harmony of views on an international peace conference for the Middle East, but we will be able to avoid working at cross purposes in the region.

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