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PRIME MINISTER

Premier Zhao Ziyang's Gift

We have looked at this again.

The idea of a bolt of suit material is very ingenious

BUT:

- one of the main complaints that Zhao Ziyang will make is the obstacles to imports of textiles from China. It would be a bit like the Dauphin sending tennis balls to Henry V.

- Percy thinks that the tortuous Chinese mind might conclude that you think he dresses badly!

*- But the Chinese gave me a bolt of silk?*

The difficulty with goblets is that you gave him an Armada plate in December. More silver might be a bit much.

It seems to me that the choice should be between:

- a fine piece of porcelain. Have you a particular preference?
- or the David Gentleman water colour. Percy thinks this would be appropriate and appreciated. The Chinese themselves frequently give pictures as gifts.

*I think something from Worcester, On a nice carriage clock?*

Agree to:

*But not pictures of them or buildings*

(a) porcelain?

or

(b) picture?

*CDP*

*We can give a Soviet cashmere trawl as well.*

*mt*