

MS2 ANV

Re

MR FLESHER

Zhao Ziyang's Visit

The FCO suddenly sprang on us today the idea of signing two agreements during this visit.

The Prime Minister has agreed to this, and suggests that the signing be done in the Pillared Room, probably at the beginning of the first session of talks on Monday 3 June (ie at 1630).

I have begun to discuss detailed arrangements with Peter Taylor, but its going to take some careful preparation next week. I should be very grateful if could supervise, but don't hesitate to give me a ring. You need to speak to FCO agreement signing experts and set up a little order of ceremony (eg Zhao Ziyang arrives, and is greeted by PM and taken to White Drawing Room; delegations proceed to Pillared Room and take up position behind tables; press to be already in position; PM and Zhao Ziyang enter and take their places; sign copies of agreements and exchange them; photographs; adjourn to Cabinet Room for talks).

CDP

24 May 1985