



Prime Minister - This is
the procedure for ceremony
for signature of agreements.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

30 May, 1985

Dear Tim,

Chinese Prime Minister: Treaty Signing

The Prime Minister has agreed to sign with Premier Zhao immediately before their first round of talks on 3 June bilateral economic cooperation and nuclear cooperation agreements. Signature will take place from 5-00pm to 5-15 pm.

The press will be present for the signature ceremony only. I enclose a press line for use if necessary and would be grateful if you could pass a copy to Iain Murray. I also enclose a note outlining the procedures for signature of the agreements.

Yours ever,
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

Tim Flesher Esq
10 Downing Street



PROCEDURE FOR SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENTS

There are two agreements to be signed requiring a total of eight signatures by each signatory, and a Note to be signed by each and then exchanged. These are:

1. Economic Cooperation Agreement.
2. Nuclear Cooperation Agreement.
3. Note relating to the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement.

The procedure will be as follows:

1. After formal greetings and introductions the Prime Minister and the Premier will take their seats at the table, the Prime Minister on the left and the Chinese Premier on the right. The copies of the Economic Co-operation Agreement will be lying on the table closed in front of them.

The copies of the Nuclear Co-operation Agreement and the accompanying Notes will be placed separately on the table in the far left and right-hand corners.

2. Two members of the Treaty Section of the FCO will be in attendance and one member of the Chinese Delegation.

One of the former will stand to the left and slightly behind Mrs Thatcher and the other in the centre behind the table. The Chinese Official will stand to the right and slightly behind the Chinese Premier.



3. First signature. The two officials will hand the pens ready for use to their respective Ministers and open the copies of the Agreement at the first signature page and indicate the place to sign. They will then blot the signatures and turn to the second signature page. After blotting these and leaving the blotters in as markers the officials will close the books and exchange them behind the table via the other FCO official.
4. Second signature. The process for signature will then be repeated, after which the copies will be closed and placed to one side on the table.
5. The Nuclear Co-operation Agreement will then be signed in the same way and placed with the first Agreement.
6. Exchange of Notes. The two officials will then place the Notes in front of the Ministers to sign and while this takes place the two Agreements will be exchanged behind the table and placed on the table to the left and right respectively of the two Ministers who will then have received back their own copies of the Agreements for retention.
7. After signature the two Ministers will exchange the Notes.
8. They will then stand, shake hands and make the appropriate remarks.