

PRIME MINISTER

DINNER AT THE CHINESE EMBASSY

The dinner is at 8.15 for 8.30. I suggest that you might arrive at 8.20.

Zhao Ziyang will make a one-minute speech at the beginning of dinner, simply to say how happy he is with the visit and how pleased he is that you have come to dinner. It would be right for you to reply very briefly and in kind. I attach a (hardly necessary) note.

At dinner you will be between Zhao Ziyang and the Vice-Premier (as at your dinner here). Other guests at your table will be DT and the Chinese Ambassador's wife.

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CHARLES POWELL

5 June 1985

REMARKS AT CHINESE PREMIER'S DINNER

Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

Thank you for your kind words.

We are all very pleased that you are enjoying your visit and glad that you have had a chance to see something of our country and our customs.

There's an old saying in English:

"he who would England win must with Scotland first begin."

Well you didn't quite begin with Scotland,
but you certainly recognised its importance
by your visit there: and when it comes to
winning England, I can assure you that your
visit here has won a special admiration and
respect, both for China and for you
personally among our people.

Prime Minister I have discovered a very good quotation

from a Ching dynasty poet - Gong Zizhen

(phon. Gung Tse-jun) - which sums up very

well what your visit has achieved.

This time I will leave the Chinese to our
excellent interpreter.

But in English it reads:

"Although we are thousands of

miles apart,

Our pact of friendship will last

for generations."

I thank you, Prime Minister, for your great

contribution to that goal, as well as for

your excellent hospitality tonight.