

PRIME MINISTER

L.S.
Pattie
19/5

The Counsellor at the Soviet Embassy rang this morning to say that his Ambassador had just returned from Moscow and had been instructed to convey to you the best wishes and warm regards of Premier Kosygin.

Mr. Dolgov said that his Ambassador was holding himself in readiness to call on you at any time. However, Mr. Dolgov did not say that Mr. Lunkov had any specific matter to raise with you and I do not imagine that you would wish to see him simply to have a general talk.

The relatively friendly tone of Mr. Dolgov's call is of some interest in the context of Mr. Pattie's attendance at the Katyn Memorial Service on Saturday. At the least it would seem to indicate that any protest which is made in the next few days will not be allowed to affect the general tenor of Anglo-Soviet relations. (You will have seen in the Press that ~~the~~ Polish dissidents have accused the Soviet Government of responsibility for the death of up to half a million Poles between 1939 and 1941. This makes it, in my view, even more likely that the Soviet and Polish Governments will feel impelled to react to Mr. Pattie's attendance).

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Pattie
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18 September 1979