



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

12 November 1982

Dear John,

We have discussed on the telephone the Arab League request that the date for the visit to London by the delegation led by King Hassan be changed again.

M Abbas el Fassi called on Mr Rifkind on 10 November to deliver a request from King Hassan on behalf of the Arab League that the visit to London be delayed by a week. The OAU decision to hold their foreign ministers' meeting on 15 November, with the Tripoli Summit on 23 November, meant that the Moroccan, Tunisian and Algerian foreign ministers could not come to London on 24 November.

After consulting you on 11 November we told the Moroccan Ambassador that the Prime Minister could not see the delegation on 1 December as they had proposed but could agree to a session of talks on 2 December (6 pm to 7 pm) followed by a dinner that evening.

The Ambassador said that the King attached great importance to a call on The Queen and to the planned tête-à-tête with the Prime Minister. He asked if time could be set aside for these additional calls. We understand from Buckingham Palace that The Queen is out of London on 2 and 3 December but that a call could be probably arranged on the afternoon of 1 December if the Moroccans requested it. Would it be possible for the Prime Minister to see the King either on the afternoon of 1 December or 2 December, or, if an earlier time is not possible, perhaps on the morning of 3 December?

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

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17 November 1982

VISIT BY KING HASSAN

Thank you for your letter of 12 November. The Prime Minister could offer King Hassan a tete-a-tete conversation (with Private Secretaries present) at 1630 on Wednesday, 1 December. This would last for an hour.

As you know, dinner has been arranged for 2000 hours on Thursday, 2 December. Do I take it that a plenary session is still required on that day? If so, this could take place from 1800 to 1900 hours.

AJC

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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MR. COLES

VISIT OF KING HASSAN

The letter from the Foreign Office is slightly misleading.

1. If you want a plenary as well as a tete a tete I can offer you the tete a tete at 1630 on Wednesday 1st for 1 hour and the plenary at 1800 hours for 1 hour on Thursday 2nd. This will give King Hassan time to return to his hotel and change for the dinner at 2000 hours for 2015 hours.

2. But if the tete a tete is on the Wednesday afternoon please remember that the Prime Minister is looking in at a Reception given by the Board of Deputies of British Jews that evening.

3. It would be difficult for me to do tete a tete and plenary on Thursday 2nd as the Prime Minister has Cabinet, Questions and the European Council briefing meeting.

*CS.*

15 November 1982



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

KING HASSAN

As I think you already know, King Hassan has changed his visit to this country for about the fifth time. It would be convenient for him to have a plenary session followed by dinner (though there would be a gap in between) on Thursday, 2 December; the day before you go to Denmark. But he has now requested a separate tete-a-tete with you on Wednesday 1st.

Shall I arrange?

*Es.*

*Yes  
not*

12 November 1982