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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

30 August 1983

Prime Minister:

Do you wish to  
offer hospitality as proposed  
at x overheat.

Dear Tim,

— — — — — JH 31/8

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 1983:

Entertainment

I should be grateful for your advice on what hospitality the Prime Minister will wish to offer her fellow Heads of Government/delegation at the CHOGM later this year (23 - 29 November) in New Delhi. We shall not be able to consider what bilateral meetings should be arranged for the Prime Minister (and what informal hospitality might thereby be entailed) until we have information about which Heads of Government and Foreign Ministers will be attending. However, we need to take a decision in principle now on the general form and extent of any formal group entertainment the Prime Minister might offer in order to reserve appropriate slots in the schedule of entertainment which the Indian organisers are already compiling.

There are three broad options. The first is that the Prime Minister should offer no hospitality whatsoever. But the absence of British hospitality would constitute a sharp break with precedent and might be interpreted as indicating a diminution of enthusiasm for the Commonwealth. Past practice has been that the Prime Minister has offered a formal meal to all colleagues, even when not acting as host to the meeting.

The second option is that the Prime Minister should entertain selectively. This would be more flexible and need not be pre-arranged. The main disadvantage is the difficulty of being selective without causing gratuitous resentment.

/The third

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*In Melbourne - we used  
the Govt's house*

The third option is that the Prime Minister should entertain all her colleagues. This is what she did in both Lusaka and Melbourne. The obvious disadvantage of this course is the expense but this should not be as great as in Melbourne.

The third option is the one we recommend: that is, two separate lunches taking in all Heads of Delegations, whether Heads of Government or not, without spouses. If the Prime Minister agrees with this recommendation, we suggest that we aim for Thursday, 24 November and Monday, 28 November. We could invite half the Heads of Delegations, split alphabetically, to each lunch, together with a number of senior Commonwealth Secretariat officials and a small British element in support. Both lunches would be given in the High Commissioner's house.

Sir Geoffrey Howe would also, in accordance with precedent, undertake some (selective) entertainment of his colleagues, in particular those with whom he will not have a substantive bilateral meeting.

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

*① I will see what  
The Queen is giving. One or two  
some of our invitations have  
checked with Head.  
not*

*Yours ever*

*J E Holmes*

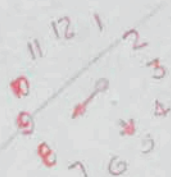
(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

Tim Flesher Esq  
10 Downing Street

PM Tours June 82  
Chogm in India



30 AUG 1983







PM. Tans.

JG

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

5 September 1983

CHOGM: ENTERTAINMENT

Thank you for your letter of 30 August.

Before deciding on the hospitality which she will wish to extend during CHOGM, the Prime Minister would like to know what entertainment Her Majesty The Queen is proposing to offer. Apparently, there have been one or two occasions in the past when invitations have clashed. I should be grateful if you could let me have the necessary information as soon as possible.

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield in the Cabinet Office.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

B/A1



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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 September, 1983

*Dear Tony*

CHOGM: Entertainment

Thank you for your letter of 5 September.

We understand that The Queen will give a banquet for Heads of Delegation on Wednesday 23 November and a reception for Ministers and senior officials on Friday 25 November. As part of Her programme of audiences She will also offer three lunches, each for three Heads of Government, on Tuesday 22 November, Wednesday 23 November and Thursday 24 November. It has not been yet decided who will be invited to Her lunch on 24 November.

We had assumed that the initial guest lists for the two proposed Prime Ministerial lunches, split alphabetically as I suggested in my letter under reference, would as usual need continuing adjustment to take account of potential clashes such as that which might arise with The Queen's lunch on 24 November. We shall continue to keep in touch with the Palace through our Protocol Department to overcome such problems. These problems have been resolved in the past without undue difficulty.

I am copying this to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

*Yours ever*  
*John Holmes*

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

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PMT ms: CACM

6/82 SEP 1962

SEP 1962



PRIME MINISTER

CHOGM: Entertainment

You wanted to know The Queen's plans.

They are as follows:

- Tuesday 22 November - Lunch for 3 Heads of Government
- Wednesday 23 November - Lunch for 3 Heads of Government  
Banquet for Heads of Delegation
- Thursday 24 November - Lunch for 3 Heads of Government
- Friday 25 November - Lunch for Ministers and senior officials

It is proposed that you should give two separate lunches including all Heads of Delegation, whether Heads of Government or not, without spouses.

The suggestion is that one lunch should be on Thursday, 24 November and the other on Monday, 28 November. Both lunches would be given in the High Commissioner's house.

The FCO would keep in touch with the Palace to ensure that there were no clashes with The Queen's invitations.

May we go ahead on this basis?

Yes nt

A.J.C.

12 September 1983



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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

13 September 1983

CHOGM: Entertainment

Thank you for your letter of 9 September.

The Prime Minister agrees that she should entertain all her colleagues at CHOGM and that this should involve two separate lunches including all Heads of Delegation, whether Heads of Government or not, without spouses. She further agrees that we should aim to do this on 24 November and 28 November.

I note that both lunches will be given in the High Commissioner's house.

You will no doubt let me see draft guest lists in due course.

I am sure that the Prime Minister will be grateful if, as you suggest, you would keep in touch with the Palace to ensure that no clashes arise with the entertainment which The Queen is giving.

I am copying this letter to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

A. J. COLES

John Holmes Esq  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 273 3632

A J Coles Esq  
No 10 Downing Street  
SW1

Your reference

Our reference

Date 23 September 1983

Dear John.

Minute to J.R.

AM 1/10.

CHGM, NEW DELHI: PRIME MINISTER'S LUNCHES

1. The High Commission in New Delhi have written to give us some menu suggestions for the lunches which the Prime Minister will give during this year's CHGM at the Residence. These are attached. I would be most grateful if a selection could be made.

2. Regarding wines, you will recall that last year on the visit to China the Prime Minister wished to have English wines served at her return banquet and I would be grateful to know whether this will be her wish on this occasion. If they are required, the wines will probably be flown out in the Prime Minister's VC10.

Yours ever,

Mike.

M M Hall  
Overseas Conferences and Visits Section  
Protocol Department



#### SUGGESTED STARTERS

Tomato and orange soup (hot or cold)  
Smoked fish pate  
Spinach galette with tomato sauce  
Egg croquettes with tomato sauce  
Shrimp and bacon kebabs

\*\*\*\*\*

#### SUGGESTED MAIN COURSES

Rolled, stuffed lamb  
Fish mousseline with seafood/mushroom salpicon  
Chicken mousse  
Whole baked fish  
Beef Stroganoff  
Chicken vol au vent

\*\*\*\*\*

#### SUGGESTED DESSERTS

Pears in red wine  
Apple pie with cream  
Apple with spun sugar top  
Fruit baskets  
Meringue baskets  
Tangarine/nimbu sorbet  
Oranges in brandy

Green Salad, or whatever salad is available at the time to be served - the salads are good and we like to have some sort of salad with most meals





Prime Minister

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Agree last page:

Yes Mr A.J.C. 2/10.

7 October, 1983

Dear John,

CHOGM: Entertainment

In your letter of 13 September you recorded the Prime Minister's agreement to her offering two lunches for Heads of Delegation, on 24 November and 28 November. Unfortunately the Indians have now decided that their Vice-President will offer lunch to all Heads of Delegation on 24 November.

It appears that the only lunchtime or dinner slots not pre-empted by The Queen, the Indians, the Commonwealth Secretary-General or by the visit to Goa are lunchtime on 28 November (which we have secured) and lunchtime on 29 November.

29 November is of course the final day of the Conference, and is thus not ideal. But it is in our view the only practicable proposal. The only real alternative would be a single lunch for all Heads of Delegation on 28 November. But this could be very cramped. The absolute limit for a lunch at the High Commissioner's residence is 46, and even this would involve six guests being squeezed into an alcove. With 43 possible guests - not including Mr Ramphal and his deputies - this would leave very little leeway. Another venue would be difficult to arrange and likely to be very expensive.

Accordingly, if the Prime Minister agrees, we would now propose to tell the Indians that the Prime Minister would like to give her lunches on 28 and 29 November.

Agreed Mr

Yours ever

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street

PM TOURS : CHGM : June 82

PHOTOGRAPHY & ARTS

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7 OCT 1983





P R O G R A M M E

OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE CHGM, NEW DELHI 1983

Monday 21 November

pm Prime Minister departs UK by RAF VC10

Tuesday 22 November

0800 approx Prime Minister arrives New Delhi  
1500 Senior Officials Meeting  
2000 High Commissioner's dinner for HM Queen  
(Prime Minister invited)

Wednesday 23 November

1030 Formal opening of CHGM  
1200 Reception by Commonwealth Secretary General  
1500 First Executive Session  
1730 Reception by the President of India for Heads  
of Delegation  
2000 Queen's CHGM Banquet

Thursday 24 November

0930 Executive Session  
1200 Visit to International Trade Fair followed  
by lunch for Heads of Delegation by the  
Vice-President.  
1500 Executive Session  
evening Dinner by the Prime Minister of India for  
Heads of Delegation.  
Separate dinner for Foreign Ministers



Friday 25 November

0930 Executive Session

1200 Departure of Heads for Retreat in Goa

1300 Lunch for Fellow Foreign Ministers by Secretary of State

afternoon Foreign Ministers depart for Retreat in Jaipur

1800 Queen's Reception for CHGM. Ministers (?) and Officials

Saturday 26 November

Retreat in Goa/Retreat in Jaipur

Sunday 27 November

Retreat in Goa/Retreat in Jaipur

Prime Minister returns from Goa to Delhi.

Secretary of State departs Delhi for Europe.

Monday 28 November

0930 Executive Session

1300 Prime Minister's lunch for fellow Heads of Government

1500 Executive Session

1700 approx Prime Minister presents Literary Award

evening Dinner by Mr Yunus, Chairman of Trade Fair Authority of India

Tuesday 29 November

0930 Executive Session

1500 Executive Session

1700 Press Conference: Prime Minister of India and Commonwealth Secretary General

evening Prime Minister departs New Delhi for UK

Wednesday 30 November

Prime Minister arrives UK



File

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10 October 1983

CHOGM: ENTERTAINMENT

Thank you for your letter of 7 October.

The Prime Minister agrees that, as proposed in your last paragraph, you should tell the Indians that Mrs. Thatcher would like to give her lunches on 28 and 29 November.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

BR





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 October 1983

Prime Minister

Clearly, we must not invite Grenada now  
but should consider nearer the time.

otherwise content?

Dear John,

CHOGM: Entertainment

A. J. C. 21.  
/ 10

/ As requested in your letter of 13 September, I attach draft guest lists for the lunches for Heads of Delegation which the Prime Minister has now agreed to give on 28 and 29 November. Now that both the lunches are to take place after The Queen's departure from India, there is no need for adjustment to take account of any entertainment she may be offering.

A simple alphabetical division of delegations produces a good regional balance. I assume that, as in Melbourne and Lusaka, Heads of Delegation unable to accept an invitation on the appropriate day may be offered, if space permits, an invitation for the other day. The result of this juggling may produce a slightly different mix, but is unlikely to disturb the overall balance.

✓ We have added also some senior representatives from the Commonwealth Secretariat. Additionally, the Prime Minister might like Mr Alison and four or five senior officials to be included for each lunch (the Foreign Secretary will of course already have left). ✓ The officials might include Sir Robert Armstrong, Sir Antony Acland and Sir John Leahy, plus of course Sir Robert Wade-Gery and at least one Private Secretary. This would produce a total of about 32 people for each lunch. Numbers could of course be made up if necessary from the other members of our delegation.

✓ If the Prime Minister agrees these proposals, we shall ask our High Commissioners to issue invitations to Heads of Delegations concerned, and will ourselves issue them to those concerned in the Commonwealth Secretariat. You will presumably as usual follow up later with confirmatory invitation cards. We will also let the Indian organisers of CHOGM know of the proposed guest lists.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street





LUNCH ON MONDAY 28 NOVEMBER

Heads of Delegation of:

Antigua and Barbuda  
Australia  
Bahamas  
Bangladesh  
Barbados  
Belize  
Botswana  
Canada  
Cyprus  
Dominica  
Fiji  
The Gambia  
Ghana  
Grenada  
Guyana  
India  
Jamaica  
Kenya  
Kiribati  
Lesotho  
Malawi  
Malaysia

*To be considered near the time.*

Commonwealth Secretariat:

Mr Ramphal  
Secretary-General  
Mr M Malhoutra  
Assistant Secretary-General  
  
Mr D Anderson  
Assistant Secretary-General

LUNCH ON TUESDAY 29 NOVEMBER

Heads of Delegation of:

Malta  
Mauritius  
New Zealand  
Nigeria  
Papua New Guinea  
St Kitts-Nevis  
St Lucia  
Seychelles  
Sierra Leone  
Singapore  
Solomon Islands  
Sri Lanka  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Tonga  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Uganda  
Vanuatu  
Western Samoa  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

Commonwealth Secretariat:

Sir Peter Marshall  
Deputy Secretary-General  
Mr H Craft  
Director of International Affairs  
Division and Conference  
Secretary for CHOGM



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

24 October 1983

CHOGM: Entertainment

Would you please refer to John Holmes's letter of 20 October.

The Prime Minister agrees that invitations should be issued to the Heads of Delegation listed in the enclosure to the letter (though Grenada should clearly be excluded and reconsidered nearer the time). I should therefore be grateful if you would act as suggested in the last paragraph of the letter and let us here know when confirmatory invitation cards should be issued.

The Prime Minister would like Mr. Alison and the officials listed in the third paragraph of the letter to be included in the lunches. As regards the place for one Private Secretary, this will either be Robin Butler or myself and it would suit us if we could confirm which of us it will be the day before each lunch.

A. J. COLES

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L. S.' or similar.



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RWR

SH



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

28 October, 1983

CHOGM

B/12  
As you know, the Prime Minister will on present plans arrive in Delhi on the early morning of Tuesday, 22 November. Now that there is no possibility of a meeting with the Australian Prime Minister on that day, we need to consider whether the Prime Minister should seek to arrange any other meetings. In particular, should she be advised to offer lunch to any of the participants. One possibility, in the light of recent events, might be some of the Commonwealth Caribbean representatives. I should be grateful for any advice you may wish to offer and shall well understand if you think it too early to advise the Prime Minister on this possibility now.

Alternatively, we could consider a lunch with some of the Africans. The Prime Minister asked me the other day whether an early meeting with Nigeria might be useful.

REC'D

P. F. Ricketts, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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