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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

13 April 1988

Dear Charles,

CDP  
14/4.

Prime Minister's Visit to Ottawa, 22 June

We spoke about this today, and you mentioned that you had not seen Ottawa telno 193 (which our department asked to be repeated to you on 23 March). I attach a copy. I should be grateful for your comments on the Canadians' suggestions.

longer

L Parker

(L Parker)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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28 MAR 1988

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 FM OTTAWA  
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FOR HEAD OF NAD

YOUR TELNO 107: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO OTTAWA ON 22 JUNE

1. I CALLED ON DEREK BURNEY, THE PRIME MINISTER'S CHIEF OF STAFF, ON 21 MARCH. HE SKETCHED OUT A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME WHICH HE EMPHASISED HAD NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSED WITH MR MULRONEY, WHOSE PRIMARY CONCERN WOULD BE TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER PROGRAMME WAS FINALLY AGREED MET MRS THATCHER'S OWN WISHES.

2. BURNEY PUT FORWARD THE FOLLOWING IDEAS FOR HER PROGRAMME:

- (A) THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE MET BY MULRONEY AT OTTAWA AIRPORT AND THERE WOULD BE A WELCOMING CEREMONY SEMI-COLON
- (B) SHE WOULD THEN PROCEED TO RIDEAU GATE (THE GOVERNMENT HOSPITALITY HOUSE AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S RESIDENCE AND ACROSS THE ROAD FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE), WHICH WOULD BE AT HER DISPOSAL THROUGHOUT HER STAY IN OTTAWA SEMI-COLON
- (C) PRIVATE TALK WITH MULRONEY FOLLOWED BY A WORKING LUNCH AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE AT 24 SUSSEX DRIVE SEMI-COLON
- (D) 15.00H - ADDRESS TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT (SEE PARA 3 BELOW) SEMI-COLON
- (E) 16.30H - CALL ON JOHN TURNER, LIBERAL PARTY LEADER SEMI-COLON
- (F) 16.45H - CALL ON ED BROADBENT, LEADER OF NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY SEMI-COLON
- (G) PRESS CONFERENCE, IF DESIRED SEMI-COLON
- (H) COURTESY CALL ON GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

3. AS WAS CUSTOMARY ON THESE OCCASIONS, THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS WOULD BE THE ONLY PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS THAT DAY. THE PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR THE SPEAKER TO INVITE MULRONEY TO INTRODUCE THE PRIME MINISTER SEMI-COLON HE WOULD SPEAK FOR 5-10 MINUTES TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE PRIME MINISTER (THE LENGTH OF HER SPEECH BEING ENTIRELY A MATTER FOR HER DECISION, BUT BURNEY SUGGESTED TENTATIVELY ABOUT 20 MINUTES), FOLLOWED BY A SPEECH OF THANKS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.



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4. BURNEY SAID IT WOULD BE DESIGNATED AS AN OFFICIAL RATHER THAN A WORKING VISIT FOR PURPOSES OF PROTOCOL. HE DID NOT PROPOSE LAYING A WREATH AT THE WAR MEMORIAL NEAR THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING BUT IT IS FOR CONSIDERATION WHETHER DOING SO WOULD SERVE TO UNDERLINE THE MILITARY LINKS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY IF OUR CONTINUING JOINT SECURITY INTERESTS WERE TO BE A PRINCIPAL THEME OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH. THIS COULD BE FITTED IN BEFORE THE ADDRESS TO PARLIAMENT.

5. IF THE PRIME MINISTER WISHED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS COULD FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER HER CALLS ON THE TWO OPPOSITION LEADERS: THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IS JUST ACROSS THE ROAD FROM PARLIAMENT. THE PRESS CONFERENCE SHOULD START NO LATER THAN 5.00 PM IF FULL COVERAGE IN THE MAIN TV NEWS THAT EVENING AND IN NEWSPAPERS THE FOLLOWING DAY IS TO BE ENSURED.

6. THIS WOULD ENTAIL MAKING THE COURTESY CALL ON THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, WHICH BURNEY DESCRIBED AS OPTIONAL, THE LAST ITEM IN THE PROGRAMME. THERE MIGHT PERHAPS BE SOME ADVANTAGE, THEREFORE, IN SLOTTING IN THIS CALL BEFORE GOING ACROSS TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE IN THE MORNING. IF (AS SEEMS UNLIKELY) THERE WERE TIME FOR ANY OTHER EVENTS IN THE PROGRAMME, BURNEY SAID THE CANADIANS WOULD BE GLAD TO ARRANGE A TOUR OF THE NEW NATIONAL ART GALLERY, WHICH IS TO BE OPENED IN MAY AND WILL HAVE A MAJOR DEGAS EXHIBITION ON AT THE TIME (THE GALLERY IS ABOUT 5 MINUTES DRIVE FROM RIDEAU GATE).

7. ANNOUNCEMENT. BURNEY SAID THE CANADIAN PRACTICE WAS NOT TO ANNOUNCE SUCH VISITS VERY FAR AHEAD. HE SUGGESTED DOING SO AROUND 22 APRIL, SHORTLY BEFORE MULRONEY'S DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON FOR HIS ANNUAL MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A VISIT TO OTTAWA BY CHANCELLOR KOHL IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE TORONTO SUMMIT WOULD HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT A WEEK EARLIER, AROUND 15 APRIL.

8. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON BURNEY'S SUGGESTIONS.

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