

PRIME MINISTER

Visit to Paris: Handling

You will be met by M. Dumas and will travel with him to the Elysee.

You have an hour's tête-à-tête with the President before lunch; and will be joined by the Foreign Secretary and M. Dumas at lunch. EC budget questions will be the main subject both for the tête-à-tête and over lunch. Other subjects which it is suggested that you raise are the London Economic Summit, particularly the question of a political statement; The Queen's programme for the D-Day celebrations; no-passport excursions; and international terrorism. You might try to cover at least the first three of these at the end of the tête-à-tête. They can be dealt with quite briefly.

The attached folder also contains briefs on two subjects which the President may raise with you - European security and WEU; and the Channel fixed link.

I will give you cards tomorrow morning summarising the main points on these specific items. On the plane on the way over, I suggest that we concentrate on the EC budget. Sir Crispin Tickell, Mr. Williamson and Mr. Renwick (David Hanney's successor) are coming with us.

FERB

3 May 1984

POINTS OTHER THAN EC BUDGET

- i. London Economic Summit -
Welcome President's views on handling. Others likely to want statements on security, international terrorism and political values.

- ii. Normandy landings -
Hope Queen's revised programme can be agreed in form proposed to French Government yesterday.

- iii. No passport excursions -
Risk of anti-French reaction if French denounce agreement.

- iv. International terrorism -
Seek European cooperation in tightening up. Will raise at Economic Summit.

/If raised

If raised by French -

v. European security and WEU -

Prepared to consider French proposals. Must strengthen, not undermine, transatlantic link. IEPG right forum for arms collaboration.

vi. Channel link -

Banks' report will be carefully examined. Proposals welcome, but link must be privately financed.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Dear Sir,

3 May 1984

Prime Minister's Visit to Paris, 4 May:
Normandy Landings

You will have seen Paris telno 534
which overtakes the briefing which I sent
you earlier today.

/ I enclose a revised brief.

Yours faithfully
R B Bone

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street



PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO PARIS 4 MAY

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORMANDY LANDINGS (Revise)

1. We are looking forward to the commemoration of 6 June. A major event in Anglo-French history. The Queen's arrival in the Royal Yacht and participation in various events will symbolise the British role in the 1944 landings.

2. We realise that there will be practical problems for the French authorities to deal with on 6 June. But we are confident that they can be overcome so that The Queen can arrive in Caen and briefly visit one site in a city which sadly had to be almost destroyed by British and Canadian forces in the Normandy battle.

ESSENTIAL FACTS

1. The Embassy drew up a programme for The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh's visit to Normandy on 6 June, which included ceremonies in the morning in the British sector, and which would not form part of the French official programme. The Queen gave her general approval to this plan. The French subsequently stated that they could not accept any arrangements whereby Foreign Heads of State attended ceremonies related to the Landings prior to the official programme organised by the French Government for the afternoon of 6 June. A revised programme has been drawn up which would include a visit to the Abbaye aux Hommes in Caen in the morning and an informal lunch party for other Royal Families and guests on board 'Britannia', but the main 'local' ceremony at Arromanches has been moved to the evening to take account of French sensitivities.

2.

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