



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 August 1984

Dear David

We had a word on the telephone this morning about Mr Heath's plans to visit South East Asia in the Autumn. The background is as follows.

On 26 July, Mr Heath's Private Office approached the FCO asking for help in arranging a private visit to Thailand in the Autumn. We agreed to do so as part of the courtesy we would normally extend to someone in Mr Heath's position. We were not informed until 14 August that Mr Heath envisaged the visit to Thailand as part of a wider South East Asian tour, between 27 August and 8 September, to include Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Burma. His Office told us that they had already been in touch with the London High Commissions and Embassies and with you.

We warned Mr Heath's Office that his programme would conflict with the Prime Minister's impending visit to South East Asia and did our best to dissuade them from going ahead, or at least to move to a later date. We added that the Prime Minister's visit will inevitably pose severe limitations on the arrangements which the Malaysian and Singaporean Governments and our Missions in those countries (whom we have now warned about Mr Heath's plans) could make for Mr Heath. Mr Heath himself is absent in Canada but his Office have remained adamant in sticking to the proposed dates. They have, however, agreed to start with Kuala Lumpur and Singapore in order to put the maximum time between Mr Heath's visit and that of the Prime Minister.

*yours ever**Stewart Eldon*S G Eldon
PS/Lady YoungDavid Barclay Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street

Forsamling og Gennemseelse af

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TO IMMEDIATE BANGKOK

TELEGRAM NUMBER 222 OF 15 AUGUST

AND TO IMMEDIATE KUALA LUMPUR, SINGAPORE, BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN,
RANGOON

BANGKOK TELNO 267 (NOT TO ALL):

VISIT BY RT HON EDWARD HEATH MP

1. THANK YOU FOR THIS RESPONSE WHICH WE PASSED ON. MR HEATH
WOULD PREFER SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER DATES. HE NOW ENVISAGES
THE VISIT TO THAILAND AS PART OF A WIDER SOUTH-EAST ASIAN
TOUR ALSO TAKING IN MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI AND BURMA.
DATES PROPOSED ARE 27 AUGUST TO 8 SEPTEMBER. MR HEATH WILL
BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR PETER BATEY,
AND DET SGT LEWIS OF THE SPECIAL BRANCH.

2. MR HEATH'S PRIVATE OFFICE HAVE SUGGESTED A PROVISIONAL
ITINERARY AS FOLLOWS:

MALAYSIA: AM 27 AUGUST - AM 30 AUGUST.

MR HEATH HAS A STANDING INVITATION TO VISIT KUALA LUMPUR. HE
HOPES TO INCLUDE CALLS ON DR MAHATHIR,
MUSA HITAM AND TENGKU RITHAUDEEN.

SINGAPORE: AM 30 AUGUST - PM 31 AUGUST

TO INCLUDE A CALL ON LEE KUAN YEW, AN OLD FRIEND.

THAILAND: PM 4 SEPTEMBER - AM 7 SEPTEMBER

PROGRAMME AS ARRANGED BY THE EMBASSY.

BURMA: PM 31 AUGUST - PM 4 SEPTEMBER

TO INCLUDE CALLS ON U NE WIN,

PRESIDENT SAN YU AND THURA U TUN TIN.

BRUNEI: PM 7 SEPTEMBER - PM 8 SEPTEMBER

TO INCLUDE A CALL ON THE SULTAN, ALSO WELL-KNOWN TO
MR HEATH.

3. (FOR KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPORE) WE HAVE TOLD MR HEATH
OF THE PM'S IMPENDING VISIT AND THE LIMITATIONS THIS MAY PLACE
ON WHAT YOU AND YOUR HOST GOVERNMENTS CAN DO. HE REMAINS
ADAMANT IN STICKING TO HIS PROPOSED DATES THOUGH HE AGREED

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TO START WITH KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPORE IN ORDER TO PUT THE MAXIMUM TIME BETWEEN THE TWO VISITS. HIS OFFICE HAVE ALREADY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE MALAYSIAN AND SINGAPOREAN HIGH COMMISSIONS AND ARE AWAITING THEIR GOVERNMENTS' RESPONSES. IN KUALA LUMPUR ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE THROUGH MRS AHMED, A FORMER BRANDT COMMISSION COLLEAGUE. MR HEATH ALSO HAS CONNECTIONS WITH ARTHUR ANDERSON, WHO COULD ASSIST WITH ARRANGEMENTS IN BOTH COUNTRIES. GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHAT THE PROSPECTS ARE FOR CALLS AS PROPOSED AND WHAT HELP YOU COULD GIVE IN ORGANISING A PROGRAMME.

4. (FOR BRUNEI) THE BRUNEI GOVERNMENT HAVE ASKED THAT BRUNEI SHOULD BE THE LAST STOP ON THE TOUR TO ENABLE THE FOREIGN MINISTER (WHO WILL BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY DURING THE EARLIER PART OF THE PERIOD) TO RECEIVE MR HEATH AS WELL AS THE SULTAN.

5. (FOR BANGKOK) MR HEATH IS MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFER TO ARRANGE A PROGRAMME, THE DETAILS OF WHICH HE IS HAPPY TO LEAVE IN YOUR HANDS. HE HOPES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE SOME TOURING OUTSIDE BANGKOK. HE ACCEPTS YOUR KIND OFFER OF ACCOMMODATION WITH THANKS.

6. (FOR RANGOON) YOUR TELNO 145. PETER BATEY HAD INFORMED US OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH BUTT. GRATEFUL IF IT WERE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO ARRANGE CALLS AS REQUESTED PLUS SOME TRAVEL OUTSIDE RANGOON. WE HAVE WARNED BATEY THAT MR FENN'S CURRENT ABSENCE ON TOUR MAY MAKE ARRANGEMENTS MORE DIFFICULT. PROPOSED ITINERARY AVOIDS CLASH WITH RCDS VISIT. WE GATHER U NE WIN IS AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE. WE ARE ENQUIRING INTO THE BACKGROUND.

7. MR HEATH'S PRIVATE OFFICE HAVE APOLOGISED FOR THE SHORT NOTICE BUT WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF WHATEVER ASSISTANCE POSTS CAN GIVE.

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LIMITED
SEAD
PLANNING STAFF
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/PUS
SIR W HARDING

COPIES TO
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MESSAGE TO JEAN/DEBBIE FROM VDAVID BARCLAY

THE PRIME MINISTER WILL WISH TO KNOW THAT MR HEATH HAS NOW TOLD US AND THE F C O THAT HE INTENDS TO VISIT THE FAR EAST BETWEEN 27 AUGUST AND 8 SEPTEMBER. HIS TOUR WILL INCLUDE MALAYSIA, SINGAPOR, BRUNEI AND BURMA.

2. BOTH THE F C O IN LONDON AND OUR MISSIONS, HAVE POINTED OUT THE ZAWKWARD TIMING OF MR HEATH'S PLANS IN RELATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OWN VISIT. MR HEATH IS IN CANADA, BUT HIS OFFICE ARE STICKING RESOLUTELY TO THEIR DATES. THEY HAVE, HOWEVER, AGREED TO START WITH KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPOE IN ORDER TO PUT THE MAXIMUM TIME BETWEEN MR HEATH'S VISIT AND THAT OF THE PRIME MINISTERM.

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Thank you for your letter of 16 August about Mr. Heath's plans to visit South East Asia.

The first we heard of this proposed visit was a telephone call from Mr. Heath's office to the No. 10 Political Office on 14 August. I am arranging for the Prime Minister to be informed.

David Barclay

^{CW}
Stuart Eldon, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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